SKELMERSDALE
Champion
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Council launch Skem brand to raise profile

College stages coffee morning fundraiser for cancer charity

James Watson with some of his First World War memorabilia.

Pledge to pay tribute to Somme victim

A FORMER serviceman from Skelmersdale who makes regular visits to the battlefields of the First World War has pledged to lay a cross and flowers on the grave of Battle of the Somme victim Robert Margison.

James Watson was moved to pay the tributes after reading in the Champion about how Robert, who also hailed from Skem, had died on September 16, 1916 in one of the bloodiest battles in human history which saw more than a million men wounded or killed.

The 61-year-old is due to return to France next year and has pledged to visit Robert's grave in the Guards' Cemetery at Lesboeufs.

He said: "When I read about Robert's story and the fact that it is 100 years since his death I decided that on my next trip to France to place a cross and some flowers on his grave.

"I have been going to the Somme for about six years. I am former military and I go with

Continued inside

LOLLIPOP LADY IN APPEAL FOR BODY CAMERAS

Near miss prompts Rosemary's call for deterrent to reckless drivers

Report by **Henry James**

A SCHOOL lollipop lady is calling for all school crossing patrol officers to be issued with body cameras after she says she was nearly knocked down by a reckless driver.

Rosemary Jamieson, who patrols at Church Road, Skelmersdale, helping pupils from the nearby Trinity CE/Methodist Primary School to cross safely, was left badly shaken after the motorist sped through the crossing without stopping just seconds after she had guided a group of youngsters across.

She says the vehicle, which showed no indication of slowing down or stopping, was just inches away from hitting her and if it had happened just a few seconds earlier a child could have been seriously hurt or even killed.

The incident occurred at about 3.25pm last Thursday, September 29 as pupils made their way home from school.

And it prompted 63-year-old Rosemary to contact the Champion calling for cameras to be issued to help curb dangerous driving.

She said; "I was in the middle of the road and the driver just drove straight through and nearly knocked me down. The car only just missed me. If it had happened seconds earlier then one of the children could have been killed. It would have been devastating.

"People doing this are putting children's lives - and mine - in danger. It shocks you. I am sure the driver was speeding and it would help if we had a speed camera down here. The limit is 20mph and I'm sure she was doing more like 40mph.

"Lancashire County Council should supply us with body cameras. I believe they have provided them to lollipop ladies in Blackpool. It would definitely help.

"This is the second time I have been nearly killed. The last time it happened, the car was stolen and when the police found the vehicle, they crushed it."

Rosemary, who has been a lollipop lady for 12 years, is also appealing for readers to help to trace the driver.

"I would ask other motorists who might have seen anything to ring the police. The police community

Continued inside

Rosemary Jamieson on duty near Holy Trinity Primary School.

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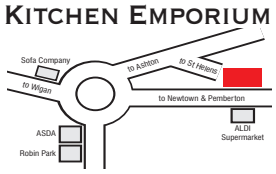

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Report warns county council will run out of money in three years

Report by **Henry James**

AN independent review of Lancashire County Council's finances has warned that the authority will run out of money within three years.

The report, which will go to the county council's cabinet tomorrow (Thursday, October 6) was carried out by professional services firm PwC.

It forecasts that Lancashire's reserves will run out in 2018/19 and that councillors would have to increase their part of the council tax bill by 3.99% a year for the next four years.

The review looked specifically at the resources that the county council needs to deliver its statutory services which it is required to provide by law. These include care for the elderly and vulnerable, safeguarding of children and young people and highways maintenance. If any of these were cut the government would have to intervene.

County Councillor David Borrow, deputy leader and portfolio holder for finance, said: "We asked PwC to provide an independent review of our financial position to establish the level of resources we will need to provide those statutory services that we are obliged to deliver by law. That independent review has now been completed and sets out in stark relief the scale of the challenge we face.

County Councillor David Borrow

"The report has identified that the council will need to make savings of £148m in 2020/21, even allowing for council tax increases of 3.99% every year for the next four years.

"Significantly, the report forecasts that the council's reserves, which we are currently using to balance our budget, will run out in 2018/19.

"The report also found that even if the council further reduced spending in every service to the level of lower quartile spending councils in England, something which no other council has achieved, it would still face an annual spending gap of £79m by 2020/21.

"This independent confirmation that our finances, like those of many other councils, are clearly not sustainable will help us to make the case to government that they need to rethink how they support councils."

FACTORS

The report also identifies various contributing factors to the council's financial position, such as the its relatively low income from council tax, which reflects the types of housing and relatively low levels of prosperity in the county. Lancashire has the third lowest council tax income of any county council in the country, per head of population.

Meanwhile, Conservative members of the council have claimed the report cost several millions but did not reveal anything new.

The report was published as part of the papers for the Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting yesterday (Tuesday, October 4).

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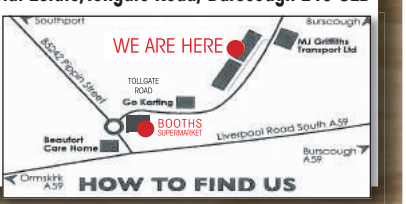

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Councillor Jenny Patterson (front right) presents a bouquet of flowers to Ann Williams to celebrate her moving into her new home. Also pictured are council officials, representatives of Procure Plus Holdings, Keepmoat Ltd., and Arcus Consulting, and new tenants, Magda Mazurkiewicz and Paul Roughley. Photo by Central Advertising Photography

£8million Firbeck Revival project is completed

Report by **Henry James**

RESIDENTS and council staff are celebrating the completion of the four-year, £8million Firbeck Revival project to revive an entire estate.

Council-owned properties on the Skelmersdale estate have had new kitchens and bathrooms installed, while the authority says a programme of external works has "transformed" its appearance with external wall insulation and render, double-glazed windows, new doors and roofs and loft insulation.

Brick bin stores at the front of the houses were removed and new canopies fitted over the front doors and fencing has also been replaced on many homes to increase security.

In addition, all private home owners on Firbeck took up a council grant (repayable when properties are sold) to have some or all of the external improvements carried out to their homes.

The final stage was to complete the works on 42 new homes built on the estate and designed to meet the needs of modern families. All of these properties are now occupied.

Ann Williams, who has moved into one of the new flats with her son David, said: "The new flat is great, lots of room and very warm. It's really nice to have a new kitchen and bathroom, with a walk-in shower."

And Paul Roughley, another tenant in the new apartments, commented: "The flats are very comfortable and feel even more roomy than I thought they would. The council and the builders have done a great job on them."

'Ambitious'

The Firbeck Revival forms part of the wider Skelmersdale Town Centre Regeneration Project. The new homes are just the second set of new council homes built in West Lancashire in the last 20 years. They consist of 14 one-bedroom and 12-two bedroom apartments, and 12 two-bedroom and four three-bedroom houses.

Some new apartments have been built to look like semi-detached houses. All 42 homes are energy-efficient properties which have gas central heating. Each flat has its own parking space and allocated garden area.

Councillor Jenny Patterson, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for housing and inclusion, said: "The new properties look fantastic and are homes that meet the needs of modern families, while the improvements to the older homes will benefit tenants for many years to come. I want to thank all the council staff and our contractors who have helped make the project such a success, and all the tenants and homeowners who have worked with us.

"The council is ambitious for the environment and the Firbeck Revival project helps achieve this as it enhances the local physical environment."

Principal contractor for the scheme, Keepmoat, whose services were acquired through the Procure Plus framework, built the houses and flats to the council's specifications; while Arcus provided architectural and employer's agent services for the project.

Frank Mondino, Keepmoat area director for the North West, said: "We are delighted to have contributed to the wider Firbeck Revival programme by delivering these fantastic new homes. The project was a true collaborative effort between the council, Keepmoat and the local community. It has completely revitalised the area whilst supporting local jobs and training opportunities for the young people of the area during the construction process."

Near miss prompts lollipop lady's call for body cameras

continued from Page 1

support officer was there at the time and saw it happen. I was still a bag of nerves the day after - it really frightened me.

"However, I would point out that many car drivers and bus drivers are respectful and courteous."

Debbie Thompson, Lancashire County Council's manager for safe and healthy travel, told the Champion: "This incident was reported to us by the school crossing patrol and was witnessed by a police community support officer, who we understand is pursuing the matter further.

"Fortunately this type of incident is relatively rare. However, we ask crossing patrol staff to report them so that we can consider any further action that may be necessary to ensure their safety and the safety of children using the crossing, as far as we reasonably can.

"We have previously investigated the use of body cameras by school crossing patrols but there is no evidence that the large amount of resources needed to introduce them would have a significant impact on improving safety.

"There are strict controls governing use of surveillance, which mean it would not be possible to justify school crossing patrols using cameras to film constantly.

"As such it is not clear that issuing body cameras would be an effective deterrent against the very small number of drivers who deliberately ignore school crossing patrols."

Ex-serviceman's pledge to lay tributes at grave of town's Somme victim

continued from Page 1

my brother, also an ex-serviceman. We stay in a converted railway station.

"As well as Robert Margison, I also heard that there was someone from Lathom called J. Rainford who died in World War One so I have put a cross on his grave too.

"It is always very emotional when we go over there. There was such a terrific loss of life during the First World War and a tragic waste of so many young lives.

"The French people also look after the sites with care and dedication.

"My mum had a brother who was killed, aged just 22, during the D-Day landings in July, 1944 and we were the first members of our family to visit his grave.

"He was ambushed by the Germans in an orchard while picking fruit. He was found in the orchard and I put flowers on his grave and crosses at the monument in the orchard.

"While I was there I picked two pine cones as mementos and gave one to my wife and the other to my sister."

Hunt for man who grabbed youth

POLICE are seeking to trace a man who grabbed a young male as he was walking alone on Fairhaven in Skelmersdale on Monday, September 26 at about 4.20pm.

Fortunately the youngster was able to break free and went home and informed his parents.

The man who tried to grab him is described as being white, with dark-brown curly hair which covered his ears at the back. He was wearing a Nike zip top with a hood, a red top underneath and blue jeans that were ripped at the thighs.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact DC Reil or DC Thompson on 01695 5661803.

Good news for shoppers - Concourse escalator fixed

CONCOURSE shoppers were given some good news when the escalator at the Skelmersdale town centre complex was fixed.

Two weeks ago tenants of the shopping centre claimed in the Champion that a broken lift, broken escalator and the shutting of staircases was deterring shoppers from visiting the first floor of the complex. Now, following our article, the escalator has been fixed.

Concourse management have said that work is set to begin this month to replace the broken lift. They found that the necessary parts were obsolete so they instructed a specialist lift consultant to put the lift refurbishment works out to tender. And they have said that they "aim to have the work completed as soon as possible."

A relative of one of the tenants said: "Thank-you so much for your article last week and I would like to report that we have had a 50% reaction from the management at the Concourse shopping centre because they have now had the escalator repaired and it has been working since last Friday.

"The strange thing is that the men who fixed it took no more than half-an-hour, so we are half way there, just the lift now."

Gary Mitchell, manager of the Concourse Shopping Centre, responded: "Contractors successfully repaired the controller, which broke and the escalator was back in service on September 27.

"We thank our customers for their patience while the repair was dealt with."

The Concourse shopping centre

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Health commissioners aim to tackle medicine waste

Report by **Henry James**

THE NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has launched a campaign to address the growing issue of medicines waste which is thought to cost £600,000 a year in the borough.

The issue is fast becoming a major concern for the NHS nationally, as it spends an estimated £300m annually on medicines that are not needed.

Although there is a clear need for the NHS to look at where it directs its funds and to use these appropriately, the medicines waste campaign will look to address some very real safety issues.

It aims to reduce the number of people taking medicine they no longer need, while at the same time addressing the dangers that people storing unused medicines at home poses if they get into the wrong hands.

To address this issue, from Tuesday, November 1, GP practices across the region will no longer accept repeat prescriptions from pharmacists ordering on behalf of a patient or carer.

Instead, patients and carers will now be required to order these prescriptions for themselves, apart from in exceptional circumstances.

To ease any concerns, GP practices are writing to all those affected in early October, explaining fully what is happening, when and why, and clearly explaining how they can now order their medication moving forward.

In addition, GP practice staff will be trained to support any patients or carers who have any difficulties.

To assist those people affected with this new process, the CCG is encouraging all patients to use the free 'Patient Access' website and smartphone app.

Patient Access is available to anyone registered with a GP, is easy to use and in addition to managing and ordering repeat prescriptions, it will enable users to make GP appointments and view their medical records online or on their smartphone.

The annual cost of medicine waste in West Lancs is estimated at £600,000t

Dr Peter Gregory, a GP at Parkgate Surgery in Ormskirk and clinical lead at NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "The NHS in West Lancashire has a responsibility to its patients to address some very important medicines safety issues.

"We are moving away from pharmacists ordering repeat prescriptions on behalf of patients, as there is a risk that medicines are being ordered that are no longer required.

"With this campaign, we want to engage with patients, to give them the confidence to take control of how they take and order their medicines and to only order what they need.

"At its core, ultimately it is about everyone in West Lancashire working together -residents, GPs and pharmacists - so that collectively we can help to tackle this issue of medicines waste."

Patients and carers who have any views about the campaign and repeat prescriptions are encouraged to speak to their GP or via an online survey available on the West Lancashire CCG website: www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk.

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Council launches Skelmersdale 'brand' to raise town's profile

Business leaders invited to become 'ambassadors' and spread the word

Report by **Henry James**

LOCAL business leaders are being invited to team up with West Lancs Council to become ambassadors for Skelmersdale and spread the word about all that is good about the town.

The borough council has worked with consultants Thinkingplace and Place Board partners Hotter Shoes, the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), West Lancashire College, Edge Hill University and Fairbanks Environmental Ltd., to create a brand for the town.

More than 40 businesses and organisations attended the launch of the Skelmersdale Story at West Lancashire Colleget, showcasing the many aspects that the town can be proud of and projecting what the place is about, what it stands for and what matters.

The council has said the storybook highlights how Skelmersdale is home to bases for many big businesses including Pepsico, Hotter Shoes and Procter and Gamble, as well as smaller companies and entrepreneurs.

Its location, next to motorway connections and close to the cities of Preston, Liverpool and Manchester, means Skelmersdale is ideally placed to work with the three Local Enterprise Partnerships and take advantage of opportunities such as Liverpool Superport.

A major priority listed in the storybook is the importance of aligning business requirements with education establishments Edge Hill University and West Lancashire College. These will play a key role developing the local economy by providing the workforce of tomorrow.

Also highlighted are the area's 'green spaces' such Beacon Country Park and Tawd Valley Park.

The launch provided information about the Skelmersdale Ambassadors scheme which aims to unite businesses, organisations and individuals across the area in a powerful network to help develop and raise the town's profile.

Ambassadors will be the first to know about opportunities and developments and will have access to the new Skelmersdale storybook, artwork, images and many other marketing materials.

PRIORITY

Councillor Ian Moran, leader of West Lancs Council and portfolio holder for economic regeneration, said: "We want to show the world what a great place Skelmersdale is to live, work and do business. A key council priority is to be ambitious for our economy by growing jobs and encouraging business and wealth. Creating the Skelmersdale brand will help achieve that and I would urge local firms to sign up and become ambassadors for our town."

Tony Rankin, Hotter Shoes' learning and development manager, said: "We are delighted to be part of the Place Board to help create a brand to showcase all that Skelmersdale has to offer. We are truly proud of our local and hard-working staff who are key to our success.

"It is vital that we work with fellow local organisations and the council to help promote Skelmersdale. This will enable us to offer the best opportunities for all the local residents and businesses, regardless of size, and to ensure we can attract the top talent here.

"We would urge any interested parties to join us as Skelmersdale Ambassadors to help promote Skelmersdale and attract the business, jobs and wealth that the people deserve."

Kim Webber, West Lancashire Borough Council chief executive (front row, far right), arrives at the launch with council leader and portfolio holder for economic regeneration, Councillor Ian Moran (front row, second right), Ian Gill, the council's deputy director of development & regeneration (back row, far right) and other guests

Saturday's open day gave the public a behind-the-scenes look at activities with Skelmersdale's 1439 Squadron Air Cadets

Air cadets invite public to take a peep behind the scenes at squadron base

THE 1439 Skelmersdale Air Cadets opened their doors to the public on Saturday, October 1.

From noon onwards members of the public were invited to go along and see what the RAF Air Cadets do.

They organised a grand event at the grounds of the squadron's base at Leah House, Daniels Lane.

People were invited to go along and join in some of the activities like first aid, drill, camp craft and field craft, and even be able to sit in an aircraft cockpit.

Visitors were also be able to try their hand at camouflage face painting and there were aviation kits to look and interact with.

Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service and Lancashire Constabulary were also both in attendance.

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Four West Lancs businesses in running for tourism awards

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

FOUR businesses from West Lancashire have reached the finals of the 2016 Lancashire Tourism Awards.

Marketing Lancashire, the county's destination management organisation, has revealed the finalists of the awards, which are now in their 13th year.

Hundreds of entrants take part in the awards each year, which are then whittled down to shortlists of up to six finalists in 16 separate categories.

This year's finalists from borough are the Swan Spectacular at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre in Burscough in the Visitor Experience Award; Infusions Cafe Bistro, Burscough in the Taste Lancashire Award; the West Tower exclusive wedding venue, Ormskirk in the Wedding Venue Award; and the Artisan Foodworks, Burscough in the Lancashire Producers and Makes Award.

Winners in nine of the categories, including the Infusions Cafe Bistro, will also be given the opportunity to represent Lancashire at the national VisitEngland Awards for Excellence 2016.

The winners will be revealed at an awards ceremony on Thursday, November 10 at Blackburn Cathedral.

Lancashire Tourism Awards 2016

Ruth Connor, chief executive of Marketing Lancashire, said "We're so pleased to be returning to Blackburn Cathedral and, from the list of finalists, it looks like it will be one of the most keenly contested for some years.

"Lancashire's tourism industry continues to grow and the Lancashire Tourism Awards is a fantastic occasion to bring businesses and individuals together, to celebrate this amazing £3.7billion sector and the quality and diversity that the county has to offer its 64 million annual visitors."

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The mayor, Councillor Liz Savage and Bob Livermore, West Lancs Council's director of housing and inclusion with the cake to celebrate the official unveiling of the newly refurbished Evenwood Court scheme

Open day to showcase improvements at sheltered housing unit

MEMBERS of the public are being invited to an open day at Evenwood Court sheltered housing scheme in Skelmersdale on Wednesday, October 19.

The aim of the event, which runs from 11am to 3pm, is to showcase the "major improvements" made by the council for the tenants.

New kitchens and bathrooms have been fitted in flats on the housing scheme, the existing lift has been refurbished and an additional lift has been installed that ensures every home is easily accessible.

Low-level showers have been put in to replace baths where new bathrooms have been installed.

The communal lounge has been completely refurbished with major alterations to windows and the internal layout with new furniture and fixtures and fittings. A new conservatory has also been added.

Current residents at Evenwood Court joined the celebrations for an official unveiling of the newly-refurbished scheme along with the Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Liz Savage and council officers. Refreshments will also be available.

Councillor Jenny Patterson, West lancs Council's portfolio holder for housing and landlord services, said: "The work carried out at Evenwood Court by the council is excellent and will really benefit people living there. If you are thinking of living in sheltered accommodation, or have relatives who may want to live in Evenwood Court, come along to our open day."

Anyone unable to make the event on October 19 but requring more information on council sheltered housing schemes can visit www.westlancs.gov.uk/sheltered or call 01695 585049.

Petition calls on council to drop green bin charge plans

Report by **Henry James**

A 960-name petition has been presented to West Lancashire Borough Council calling on the authority to abandon plans for the unpopular £30 green bin charge ahead of the decision-making meeting on October 19.

The petition was organised by members of independent political group, Our West Lancashire who say they have the support of residents from every ward in the borough.

Councillor Adrian Owens, Our West Lancashire representative for Derby ward, said: "The depth of opposition to this proposal was evident from the comments people have made on the online petition and what people told us when we collected signatures on the street.

"It is an ill-conceived proposal and when the council under-spent by more than £600,000 last year, it is unnecessary."

And Ian Davis, Our West Lancashire treasurer, added: "I found out that since Pendle Council introduced green bin charges the amount of waste ending up in residents' normal waste bins has increased. It's obvious that some residents will add their garden waste to their normal waste bins if this charge goes ahead and then we will all have to pay extra to have it sorted or in extra landfill tax."

Fellow Our West Lancs activist, Jane Thompson, commented: "The sheer number and geographic spread of the petition signatures show that if Labour insists on pushing ahead with this, they will be ignoring public opinion.

"Last time the public were consulted 72% opposed the charge. Nothing has changed since then. Waste collection services should be paid for as a universal service through council tax.

"Let's look at councillors' allowances first. They voted themselves to retain the highest allowances in Lancashire and sit pretty while now expecting the residents of West Lancashire to suffer. "

Peter Banks, who stood in the local elections for the independent group, said: "The charge will hit those on lower incomes and those without cars disproportionately and also lead to job losses in the refuse teams.

Our West Lancashire committee members Peter Banks, Ian Davis, Adrian Owens and Jane Thompson presenting the petition at the borough council offices

"The council estimate 65% of residents will not take the green bin service if the charge is introduced so the staff on those collections will find their jobs redundant."

A council spokesman responded: "Pendle Council introduced its green waste charge in 2014. The authority has told us that it only had a small increase in the amount of household waste it has collected over the last two years and this is unrelated to the green waste charge being introduced. Other local authorities across the country have also experienced a rise in the amount of household waste being collected regardless of whether they have introduced a green waste charge or not.

"While providing collections for household waste and recyclable materials is a statutory service the council must provide, collecting garden waste is a discretionary service. A number of other councils charge for green waste collections and others in Lancashire are either considering introducing a charge or will implement one shortly.

"This was one of a number of proposals for savings, efficiencies and increases in income about which the council consulted the borough's residents, as well as organisations and businesses over the summer.

"The needs to save £1.44m in its budget for 2017/18. In 2015-16 the council managed its finances effectively and delivered a favourable budget variance of just over £600,000. This money was then allocated for a range of purposes including helping to fund the council's purchase of the Wheatsheaf Walk site in Ormskirk town centre.

"Councillors will decide on whether the proposals should go ahead at the council meeting on Wednesday, October 19. Views received through the public consultation, along with the petition, will be considered at the council meeting.

"The council values its workforce and has a strong track record of managing change. There have been no compulsory redundancies over the last few years."

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Men-Aces manager Carl's TV date

Report by **Henry James**

CARL Eaton, manager of the Skelmersdale Men-Aces disability football team, was invited to be a guest on regional news programme, North West Tonight, to talk about the impact winning a BBC Get Inspired Unsung Hero award had on the club.

During his appearance at the show, broadcast from the BBC studios in Media City, Salford, Carl commented on the incredible journey the club has enjoyed since its formation and how the award has helped the Men-Aces.

He received the award for the North West region and his recognition was announced during the BBC Sports Personality of the Year programme last December.

The names of this year's 15 BBC Get Inspired Unsung Heroes are to be announced shortly and Carl said: "If you know anybody who is worthy of this award, nominate them. It will be the best thing you ever did. The rewards this brings are incredible."

Carl and Mim Eaton (front right and back left) with the North West Tonight team at the Salford studios

And Carl's wife Mim, who originally nominated him, added: "Carl managed to put across a truly inspirational speech encouraging all our wonderful volunteers out there.

"We are so proud of Carl and the Men-Aces. We do work hard, like many other thousands of volunteers across the country, and we urge people to put in for the award as a recognition to represent all the great work we all do.

"The whole night was a great experience. Now we are hoping to be invited back to Salford to enable us to take some of the Men-aces to the studio as it was such a lovely experience. The staff at North West Tonight in the BBC Studios were magnificent and made us feel really welcome."

Councillor urges community groups to bid for government funding to tackle hate crime

A SKELMERSDALE county councillor is urging local community groups to apply for government funding to help launch projects tackling hate crime.

County Councillor Julie Gibson, Lancashire County Council's lead member for community safety, welcomed the government's recent announcement of funding for such projects.

Grants of between £25,000 and £50,000 are available under the scheme as part of the government's hate crime action plan but groups only have until Friday, October 14 to apply.

Cllr. Gibson, who represents Skelmersdale West ward, said: "Providing funding for projects which prevent hate crime is one of the actions included in the UK government's hate crime action plan and I would urge all groups involved in the delivery of this work to apply.

"The aim of the fund is to work with affected communities to develop a range of pilot projects that support the delivery of the five key aims of the government's plan for tackling hate crime."

The key aims are:

1. Preventing hate crime.
2. Responding to hate crime in our communities.
3. Increasing the reporting of hate crime.
4. Improving support for the victims of hate crime.
5. Building our understanding of hate crime.

County Councillor Julie Gibson

Cllr. Gibson added: "While I welcome the funding it is disappointing that the available pot is only £300,000, but it is a start, and if it proves to be a success I would hope that the government commits further to this initiative by making further funds available."

Spud bus rolls into school

PUPILS at a Skelmersdale primary school hopped aboard a special bus to learn about the 'journey' of potatoes - from the farmers' fields to their dinner plate!

The youngsters from St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School had an enjoyable time learning all about the humble spud when Billy Branston's Amazing Potato Bus made a four-day stop-off at the school in Blakehall.

They learned how to prepare the soil with a destoner machine that removes stones and clods; how to plant and harvest the potato seeds; and how to check the potatoes were good enough to be sold at the supermarket.

And all that learning helped them to work up an appetite to enjoy sampling some freshly-cooked potato wedges from the bus's serving hatch at lunchtime!

Open day at new nursery

THE newly-opened nursery of a local primary school is staging a fun open day on Saturday, October 8 from 10am to 2pm.

Little Pips at Crow Orchard Primary in School Lane, Skelmersdale opened last month offering nursery provision for three-year-olds.

Crow Orchard headteacher, Ann Hedges said: "I am thrilled with the new nursery. This is something I have wanted to set up in school for several years and I couldn't be happier with how well it is developing."

Parents are welcome to go along to the open day with their children who can play with the toys, have their face painted and have a snack. All intending to attend are asked to notify the school on 01695 724046.

Youngsters in the Little Pips nursery at Crow Orchard Primary

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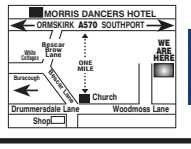

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Disabled couple claim police broke their CCTV equipment

Report by **Henry James**

A DISABLED couple from Skelmersdale claim that their CCTV equipment was broken by police after they took it away to look at footage following a burglary at their home.

Mark and Kathryn Wielding from Lambourne, Ashurst also want to know why it took officers six months to return their belongings.

They had originally called the police after they said a burglar, armed with a knife, entered their home in March.

Mark said: "Police took the equipment, which included a digital video recorder and monitors in March following the incident at our home. Then It took six months before they were returned and when they were, they were damaged.

"The DVR and monitors don't work now but the police have denied that they damaged them and are accepting no liability for what has happened.

"We can't afford a new system but we need this equipment because we are very vulnerable. We are both in wheelchairs, my wife has MS and I have cancer.

"We had the equipment installed by an electrician. It cost £980 for all the equipment and £50 for the installation."

Lancashire Police were unable to comment as the Champion went to press.

Right: Kathryn and Mark Wielding with the damaged CCTV equipment

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College students' coffee morning fundraiser for cancer charity

Tutor Helen Young (left) and students at West Lancashire College's coffee morning fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support.

STAFF and students at West Lancashire College took part in the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' to raise more than £100 for cancer charity, Macmillan.

Foundation learning tutor Helen Young, in conjunction with learners from the Foundation Learning Enterprise and Fundraising group and BTEC Health and Social Care learners organised the event, with support from college catering manager, Chris Baker who donated cakes.

The coffee morning took over the entire Café West on Tuesday, September 27 with, staff, students and the public all in attendance.

Helen Young commented: "I'm so proud of the learners who have worked together to organise, promote and host the Macmillan coffee morning. Thank-you so much to all who attended and contributed to this great cause."

The 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event, where people across the UK hold coffee mornings to raise money for people living with cancer.

Cold callers prompt alert

POLICE are advising people in Skelmersdale to be vigilant after Digmoor residents were left feeling uneasy when cold callers knocked at addresses claiming to be suffering from speech and hearing disabilities and attempting to sell goods.

The callers presented the home owners with a card and in some cases attempted to sell paintings and photographs.

A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police said: "Can we please advise all residents to remain extra vigilant at this time, maintaining a high level of home and personal security.

"Do not answer the front door to anyone who you are unsure of. "If you notice anything suspicious with regards to this incident please contact us on 101."

County council publishes initial report into December floods

LANCASHIRE County Council has published an overview report on the December 2015 floods, as a first step in making public the findings of investigations into how the county's communities were flooded and how future flooding risks can be managed.

This initial report, more limited in scope and known as a 'Section 19 investigation', looks at the weather conditions leading to the flooding and is particularly focused on the statutory responsibilities and duties of flood risk management authorities during those storms.

It recognises those bodies identified as risk management authorities by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. These are: • the lead local flood authority (in this case Lancashire County Council); • the Environment Agency; • a district council for an area for which there is no unitary authority; • an internal drainage board; • a water company; and • a highway authority.

The report found that all of these authorities had discharged their duties before, during, and after the flooding events caused by storms Desmond and Eva, and that work continues in the medium-to-long term.

County Councillor Marcus Johnstone

All of the risk management authorities have been involved in gathering information about the individual causes of flooding in all 229 affected communities and potential measures to manage or mitigate the risk of future flooding. That information continues to be gathered and will be published as a series of district level updates, every three months, with detailed information on the investigations undertaken at each of the affected locations, and flood risk improvements already completed and the opportunities for further investigations and/or works.

County Councillor Marcus Johnstone, Lancashire's cabinet member for environment, planning and cultural services, said: "The December floods were unprecedented in their severity and extent, affecting more than 200 communities across the county and causing untold distress to homeowners, disruption to businesses and damage to critical infrastructure.

"Those agencies with responsibility for managing the risk of flooding have been working very hard together, as the Lancashire Flood Risk Partnership, to understand how each individual flooding incident happened and to take action to manage or reduce the risk of it happening again. This report starts the process of sharing the results of that work, ensuring that people are fully informed about plans for their communities."

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Pupils and teachers at Bishop Martin Church of England Primary School celebrate their 'outstanding' report

Primary school celebrates 'outstanding' inspection result

STAFF and pupils at Bishop Martin CE Primary School are celebrating after receiving the highest rating that can be achieved in their recent church school inspection.

As a Church of England institution, the school in Birkrig, Skelmersdale had to undergo the Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) in July.

And the school was adjudged outstanding in all areas.

The inspectors' report commented that: "The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Bishop Martin as a Church of England school are outstanding."

It also referred to the "pupils' excellent behaviour and positive attitudes to learning" and that "lessons were inspiring and creatively planned".

Acting headteacher, Ian McDonald, said: "As well as Ofsted, church schools are rightly subject to additional rigorous inspection that looks specifically at the distinctive Christian character of the school.

"Our inspector was blown away during her time at Bishop Martin with all aspects of school life that she witnessed.

"The school is a truly special place to work and learn and our teachers, pupils and parents see that too.

"I was so proud that our inspector supported the already deeply held beliefs of the school community."

Bands stage free gig in aid of homeless charity

LOCAL bands teamed up with a music mogul to raise funds for homeless charity, Crisis.

Alan McGee, the man who signed up legendary Manchester rockers Oasis, launched nationwide campaign, Musicians Against Homelessness, earlier this year.

It has won the support of many big names on the music scene and bands here in Skelmersdale and surrounding areas rallied to the cause by playing a fundraising concert at E Rooms in Westgate.

Dave Beeston, director of the E Rooms, said: "We would like to thank everybody who performed completely free of charge for this very worthwhile cause and also the people that attended.

Alan McGee

"Musicians Against Homelessness was not just about raising money for Crisis, but also about giving bands and musicians a chance to perform. With many venues closing down we were pleased to give up-and-coming bands, as well as students from E Rooms' Young Guns project, the chance to perform live albeit to a small, but very appreciative audience."

Alan McGee said: "The support in the Skelmersdale area has been tremendous and inspiring and it's fantastic to see so many come forward to take part."

Ed Tait, director of fundraising for Crisis, said: "The support of Musicians Against Homelessness comes at an important time. Homelessness is devastating, leaving people vulnerable and isolated. With rough sleeping rising steeply across England, unfortunately our services are all the more important."

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Members of Mitch FC under-14s who have been sponsored by local company Wright Bounce

Local company agree sponsorship deal for young footballers

A GROUP of budding football stars have got a spring in their step after landing backing from a local business.

Members of Mitch FC under-14s, who play in the Southport & District Craven Minor Junior Football League, will be sponsored for the 2016/17 season by Skelmersdale bouncy castle hire firm Wright Bounce.

Team manager, Liam Heaton said: "Wright Bounce have paid for all of the kids to have winter training jackets and we want to thank them for their support."

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
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Aughton residents should be glad they got off lightly compared to rest of borough when it comes to new housing

AM I missing something with the article in the Champ regarding the the Parrs Lane development in Aughton ('Council to challenge Parrs Lane plans', September 21)?

Mr Atkinson, the chairman of the Aughton residents' group should think that he and all the Aughton residents have got off pretty lightly compared to the rest of the borough.

The complaint about the building of 150 houses on that site at Parrs Lane is minor compared to the Burscough and Skelmersdale developments.

The Yew Tree farm project in Burscough will eventually house 100 homes plus any commercial buildings. The infrastructure around this once-pleasant village won't change, no more doctors, no more schools and the main trunk road to Liverpool will stay the same - and all built on green belt land to compound the issue.

That project hasn't even begun yet and we have at least 100 houses and the old mill being built or renovated already, plus smaller projects down Square Lane, Moss Nook and Moss Lane that come to mind.

Burscough FC football ground is a proposal also, which from a personal point of view, I hope doesn't happen.

I went to the planning meeting for Yew Tree Farm and although someone from the council in the council chamber suggested that this project needed special attention, it was dismissed with a wave of the hand by the then chairman of the planning committee, Roger Bell.

The people representing Burscough were given three minutes to state their objections, which I thought was totally unfair and undemocratic, with the size of the project and numerous objections the planners had received from the residents groups in the village.

No one listened to our objections, so the Yew Tree farm project will sadly go ahead.

Skelmersdale has had in the region of 2,000 houses proposed, I can't elaborate on that development, but safe to say 150 in Aughton falls well shorter!

I believe Mr Atkinson and the Aughton residents should be glad that their parish can help with the housing shortage, or do I detect an element of 'anywhere but our patch?

George Clandon, Burscough, by email

We're not all nimbys - and new-builds are preferable to the dreaded HMOs

DO our local councilors have a hidden agenda when it comes to housing?

They seem to be actively encouraging houses of multiple occupation (HMOs) and granting planning permission for student lets throughout the whole of Ormskirk, yet they have now launched a High Court challenge against new housing on Parrs Lane Aughton.

It almost feels that something sinister is going on.

As an Aughton tax payer I want to know who is paying for this challange? If, as I suspect, it's the taxpayer, how can they justify this when they're looking to slash public services?

Personally, I welcome the idea of building new homes where the eventual adult occupiers actually pay tax and want to lay roots in the area with plans to bring up their families in the community. I believe it would go some way to addressing the balance tipped in favour of our seasonal visitors who frequent the area for a few months every year on their path to greater knowledge.

And before those opposing the new-builds pen a curt reply just remember you'll be doing so from the comfort of your own home which was itself part of the green belt at one time. So unless you agree to demolish your house and return the land to its original condition people in houses - glass or otherwise - shouldn't throw stones.

Aughton resident, by email,

PICTURE of the week

Skies over Southport were ablaze with colour as the town once again hosted the British Musical Fireworks Championships with seven teams competing over three nights for the title. Picture by Martyn Snape.

University policy ensures problem will continue

I WHOLEHEARTEDLY agree with the letter by Ormskirk resident (Champion, September 28) regarding student hooliganism in our supposed market town. Like him or her I thought they were here to study, not to abuse our town and its community.

I regret, however, that the problem will continue as the whole policy of Edge Hill University appears to be get as many bums on seats as possible, irrespective of educational standard or community spirit. Such a policy creates a bigger bank balance and higher salaries for executives and lecturers.

Perhaps if their 'chiefs' lived in the town they would view the problems with more sympathy.

Steve Kelly, by email

Stranger's kindness

I WOULD like to thank the complete stranger who came to our rescue in Ormskirk while I was out shopping on Tuesday (September 27) with my elderly aunt.

My aunt fell over a small dog outside Home Bargains but the dog's owner - a lovely lady called Angela - very kindly took her home in her car and wouldn't even take any money for petrol.

So, Angela, if you read this please accept our sincere thanks again. Apart from a few scrapes, my auntie was soon up and about again.

Edna Ashcroft, Ormskirk, by email

We want your views

■ **IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?**

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors and are NOT necessarily endorsed or advocated in any way by Champion Newspapers.

Rosie serves her constituents well

I WRITE in reply to the two letters about Rosie Cooper (Champion, September 28).

Firstly, I'll deal with Maurice George's letter. He asks what kind of Labour Party does Rosie represent. Well, she represents the reasons why she was re-elected in the 2015 General Election as MP of West Lancashire - because she serves her constituents and serves them well.

I have had experience of her dealing with issues of mine since becoming disabled in 2013 and have always had a positive result.

That's why she was elected and I doubt any voters thought of any of your questions before voting.

As to the letter from 'Aughton resident', I suspect you vote for the Conservative Party. If you don't, I apologise profusely. If you do, then your comments are hypocritical bearing in mind what your party's MPs have claimed for.

James Riley, Carfield Skelmersdale

My heartfelt thanks to caring contractors and great hospital staff

HAVING read the letter 'Guardian angels came to my rescue after town-centre fall' (Champion, August 31), I am prompted to write of my own experience with the council's seemingly insatiable appetite for filling every square metre of our town centre with as many small, loose and uneven paving blocks as they can fit in.

While walking between the Santander bank and the clock tower, I tripped over an uneven paving stone and broke my hip.

All of this was observed by contractors working at the bank and if your earlier correspondent had guardian angels, I had gentle giants.

At my request two strong and gentle construction workers got me to my feet but it was obvious that I could not stand and had a serious injury.

One promptly rang for an ambulance which arrived in about five minutes. They then requisitioned two chairs from Costa for me and my wife, who had joined me. (Thank you, Costa, we do have a loyalty card!)

The day was cold and the workers went and got their site coats for us until the ambulance arrived.

Unfortunately, I cannot remember the name of the construction company, but I am truly grateful for the help and care they so willingly gave.

Can I also give our much-maligned NHS a big thank-you for my treatment at Southport Hospital?

Nothing was too much trouble for any of the departments. I had an excellent operation and after-care and am pleased to report that I am regaining mobility again – no thanks to our town planners and architects!

William Walsh, Aughton

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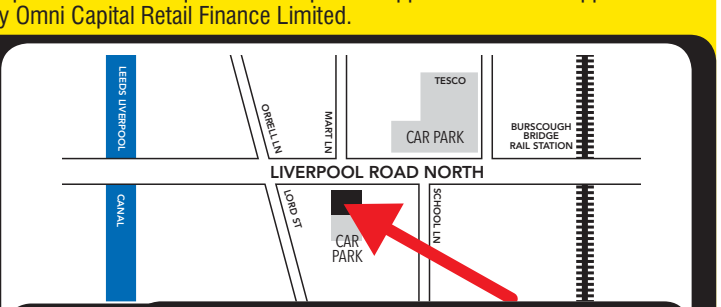

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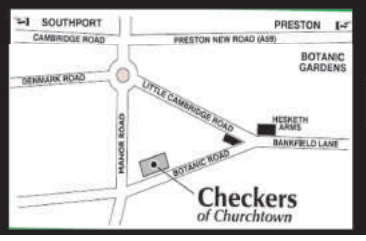

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Pals' grand fundraiser for cancer charity

TWO friends brewed up more than £1,000 for charity with their cake and coffee event in Bickerstaffe.

Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage was among the visitors who went along to enjoy a cuppa and a slice of cake at Caroline Taylor and Barbara Fairclough's 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' event to raise funds for national cancer charity Macmillan in the community hall at Stockley Crescent.

Raffle prizes up for grabs on the day included a meal and wine for two at a local pub, haircut and blow-dry at a local hairdressers, a hamper, a Christmas tree voucher, a supermarket voucher, afternoon tea for two, wine, chocolates and flowers.

Caroline Taylor said: "We raised £1,055 for a wonderful charity and we were thrilled that the mayor came along."

Right: Caroline Taylor and Barbara Fairclough with friends and neighbours at their coffee morning fundraiser

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Village show a success

ORGANISERS have hailed the 39th Mawdesley Show, held at the village hall, a success.

The annual event featured exhibits in photography, flowers, crafts and confectionery, as well as children's categories, including artwork and baking.

Ruth Thompson won the first, second and third prizes for her watercolours in the general section, Ellen Crawshaw won the cup for best exhibit in the hand-made toy category and Vivienne Winder and Rosemary Taylor were winners in the fruit and vegetables section.

And Mawdesley St Peter's CE Primary School beat St Peter and Paul Catholic Primary to claim the Schools' Challenge Cup.

Visitors view the exhibits at the Mawdesley Show

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Hats the way to do it...

Mayor invites pupils to help boost charity fund with fun competition

PRIMARY school pupils in West Lancashire are being invited to design and create their own hats to wear at a fabulous fundraising tea party.

The mayor, Councillor Liz Savage, has written to the head teachers of all primary schools in the borough asking them to organise hat-making competitions with the winners being invited to a special Mad Hatters' Tea Party to be held in the Mayor's Parlour on Thursday, October 27.

The idea is that each child should design a hat to represent their interests with schools taking part selecting a winner from the Foundation and Key Stage 1 classes and another from the Key Stage 2 classes.

Each entrant will be requested to make a £1 donation towards the mayor's charity fund which this year aims to raise a grand total of £52,000 to be split between the Neonatal Unit at Ormskirk Hospital; the Birchwood Centre and the Artz Centre in Birch Green, Skemersdale; and The Civic in Ormskirk.

As well as attending the Mad Hatters' Tea Party on October 27, the winners will go on to the council chamber where the mayor will choose the overall winning hat and wear it.

Councillor Savage said: "This is a really fun competition for children to enter and I hope the schools will get behind it and help raise money for four very good causes."

Winners of the schools' competitions need to be notified to the mayor's office on 01695 585033 by Friday, October 14.

Mayor of West Lancs, Cllr. Liz Savage

West Lancs MP calls for Labour to focus on returning to power

ROSIE Cooper has congratulated Jeremy Corbyn on his re-election as Labour leader and called for the party to turn its attentions to winning the next General Election.

After a leadership contest which has been adjudged to have caused conflict in the party's ranks, Mr Corbyn defeated challenger Owen Smith by securing 61.8% of the vote.

In response to the result, West lancs MP Ms Cooper said: "I congratulate Jeremy Corbyn on his re-election as Labour Party leader. Now the leadership of the party has been resolved we must focus on beating the Conservatives at the next General Election and on stopping them failing communities like West Lancashire.

"My priority has always been - and remains - to be working hard for the people of West Lancashire as their MP to deliver a better deal for all residents and addressing issues including tackling flooding, fighting to protect local NHS services, campaigning for a railway station for Skelmersdale and supporting local businesses, local jobs and local communities."

Rosie Cooper MP

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It's time to recognise what a great city Liverpool is

I WAS invited to lunch the other day at the restaurant on the top floor of the marvellous Albert Dock museum complex.

Not being sure exactly how long it would take me to get there – walk to Maghull station, catch train, walk to the Albert Dock and discover exactly where the restaurant (or is it a bistro?) is - I allowed plenty of time for my journey.

As is my wont, I allowed far too much. No matter how old I get, this is something I do on a regular basis. For instance, twice a week I catch the 9.30am bus to Southport and, try as a might, I can't prevent myself from getting to the bus stop a good 10 minutes before it's due. It's as if I cannot convince myself that I can walk the quarter of a mile or so quite easily in five minutes.

Anyway, because of this curious hang-up I had 30 minutes or so to spare when I arrived at the Albert Dock complex so I thought I'd have a quick look round.

I found a fascinating exhibition about the workings of the customs service which I whizzed through. Then, apparently with still some time to spare, I started on the exhibition of why Liverpool had a vital part to play in the Titanic tragedy - only to realise that time was indeed now running out and it was only while waiting for the lift to the top floor that I spotted there were other exhibitions devoted to the sinking of the Lusitania and about my favourite liner, the magnificent Mauritania (the original one of course).

Marvellous

Anyway, I enjoyed a splendid lunch which, though I wasn't paying, was in fact very reasonably priced and the room afforded splendid views over the Mersey to aid digestion.

I had to hurry back to James Street station after we had finished to 'free' the dogs but realised that I could quite happily have spent a whole day just wandering through a succession of totally free maritime exhibitions.

And as well as ships and shipping, there are of course many other exhibitions, plus the shops and other attractions including the big wheel from which the views of the city and river must be superb.

It occurs to me that living on or near Merseyside we are fortunate indeed to have such a marvellous leisure facility as the Albert Dock on our doorstep. You might be able to find similarly interesting places in London, but not all on one site, and certainly not where most of the attractions are totally free.

If this sounds like an advert for the Albert Dock, I suppose it is. For the price of a journey into Liverpool you can have a truly memorable day out with the only expense being food and drink – and if you wanted you could always take your own butties and bottles of whatever you fancy with you.

I reckon that if Liverpool had nothing going for it apart from the Albert Dock complex it would still be a tourist venue. But of course it does have so many other things and places well worth a visit. People from the city, just as much as those of us living on its outskirts, have always tended to run it down.

Perhaps it's about time that people like me, who always tended to tell folk from elsewhere that I came from Lancashire (well I did when I was growing up) came out openly to point out to strangers what a great city we live near.

Have you really looked at St George's Hall, or the façade of Lime Street station? Or any of the dozens of other splendid buildings all over the place?

One thing I did realise while lunching though was just how quiet the river is now compared to 30 years ago when it was alive with shipping. And yes, I know, the Seaforth container docks are doing more business tonnage wise than the port has seen for years (or ever?).

Just seems a bit of a pity though that there aren't even the ferry boats scurrying to and fro like so many water beetles. And where are the ubiquitous Isle of Man ferries such as *Manxman*?

Well, at least she is alive and well, sort of, in Norfolk!

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Free fruit trees offer

Council set to launch popular scheme again

Local gardeners could enjoy Bramley apples like these if they take advantage of West Lancs Council's free trees scheme

KEEN gardeners in the borough are once again being offered the chance to take advantage of West Lancs Council's popular free trees scheme.

This year's scheme will be launched on Monday, October 17 when applicants will have a choice of two different varieties of fruit tree, Bramley apple or Victoria plum.

First introduced in October 2008, the free tree scheme aims to improve the borough's environment and attract more wildlife into local people's gardens by encouraging residents to plant trees. Since its inception more than 5,800 new trees have been given to residents to plant throughout the borough.

Trees provided will be approximately two years old and will be about a metre tall.

The Victoria plum has been the most successful of all the trees offered since the scheme began, while there is a poignant tale attached to this years' introduction of the popular Bramley's seedling.

The original tree, the mother of all Bramley apples, is currently dying of a fungal infection and the council would like to continue the legacy of the Bramley apple by offering residents a chance to pick up a free Bramley's seedling tree as part of the scheme.

The council will also continue to offer a packet of free Flanders Poppy seeds as a commemoration to the start of the battle of the Somme 100 years ago.

West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for planning, Councillor John Hodson, said: "Fruit trees are very much part of the area's heritage and as well as attracting wildlife and providing fruit to eat, they are well-suited to smaller domestic gardens - so whatever the size of your garden, why not take up our great offer and plant a tree?"

To find out more and to apply, visit the council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/trees between Monday, October 17 and Friday, October 28.

There is a limit to the number of trees and seeds available so they will be allocated on a 'first come-first serve' basis. Successful applicants will be informed where and when to collect the trees and seeds. Residents are asked not to apply unless they are sure they want to take up this great offer, as their application may mean that someone else who really wants a tree cannot get one.

Trees will be allocated in time for planting during National Tree Week 2016, which runs from November 26 to December 4. Trees provided under the scheme are only available to West Lancashire residents and must be planted in the borough. The council also provides a guide showing how to plant and look after the trees.

Sarah rises to baking challenge

CATERING manager Sarah Levenson really rose to the challenge when she took part in a UK-wide baking challenge.

Sarah, who is based at Lordsgate Township CE Primary School in Burscough, beat five other contenders to claim victory in the final of the Big School Bake off organised by national catering suppliers Unilever Food Solutions.

And as well as the title of 2016 Big School Bake Off champion, she also won £100 worth of Love2Shop vouchers and a baking extravaganza day for herself and three friends with head judge Jo Wheatley, former winner of TV's Great British Bake Off.

Sarah works for the school as catering manager for Mellors Catering Services based in Prescott Road, Pimbo, Skelmersdale.

Mellors marketing manager, Helen Roughley said: "We are incredibly proud of what Sarah has achieved. She is such a talented catering manager and really deserves this accolade.

"Mellors Catering Services has a history of talented women bakers, including the Mellors bakery founder Amelia Jane Ashworth, and Sarah is no exception."

Sarah receives her trophy from Jo Wheatley

Coffee morning club on write lines

THE next two meetings of the Hobnob coffee morning club will all have a literary theme.

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 11am to 12.15pm at Aughton Village Hall and members of the public are welcome to go along to enjoy a cuppa and a chat, as well themed mornings and talks by guest speaker.

The next meeting on Wednesday, October 12 will cover the history of traditional tales, nursery rhymes and limericks, with encouragement for 'Hobnobbers' to have fun writing their own.

And on Wednesday, October, 26, there will be a shared reading session.

Looking further ahead, the meeting on Wednesday, November, 9 will feature a lotto with prizes, while on Wednesday, November, 23 there will be the opportunity to share favourite poems.

Footy teams wanted

A FIVE-A-SIDE football league has vacancies for new teams.

Football Evolution holds matches at St Bede's Catholic High School, St Anne's Road, Ormskirk on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Games kick-off at 7.40pm and 8.20pm on Monday and at 7pm and 7.45pm on Wednesday.

Organiser, James Dyson said: "The leagues are suitable for all standards and we welcome casual or corporate teams. Referees and match balls are provided and all league tables are updated next day on the website. All teams need to do is turn up and play."

For more information contact James on 07794 597 907 or visit www.football-evolution.co.uk.

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Ormskirk duo clinch third place in prestigious ladies event

TWO ladies from Ormskirk Golf Club finished a creditable third in the WPGA Lombard Trophy.

Ali Gray and her amateur partner Sara Fitzgerald played in the inaugural staging of the 36-hole tournament held at Pestana's Vila Sol Golf & Resort Hotel in Portugal on Thursday and Friday, September 22 and 23.

The event, targeted at female PGA pros and amateurs, was launched this year with the aiming of encouraging more women to play golf.

Sara, a three-handicapper, is a former Wales amateur international, while Ali is a two-time winner of the Women's PGA Professional Championship.

The pair earned their place by shooting a six-under-par round of 66 in a qualifier at Camberley Heath and faced rivals from five other clubs in the grand final.

At the end of round one three pairs had negotiated the par-72 course at the Algarve in three-under to share pole position in pursuit of the £2,500 winner's cheque.

The trio of pacemakers in the tournament comprised a PGA professional and her amateur partner from Dinsdale Spa, the Ormskirk ladies and the team of Wike Ridge Golf Club.

The Ormskirk duo had posted a bogey at the par-four first before atoning with three birdies to be two-under at the turn.

After the second and final round the Dinsdale pairing repeated their 69 for a six-under-par aggregate and won by three shots from the Wike Ridge pair.

Ali Gray and Sara Fitzgerald from Ormskirk finished a shot further back in third place.

Right: Ali Gray and Sara Fitzgerald pictured at theWPGA Lombard trophy in Portugal

High school PTA plan fun events to mark 60th anniversary

THE parent-teacher association of an Ormskirk school is set to mark its 60th anniversary with a series of fun events including burying a time capsule in the grounds and a 'blind' wine-tasting event to raise funds to improve the school hall.

The time capsule will be buried in the grounds of St Bede's Catholic High School in St Anne's Road on Friday, October 21.

Meanwhile the 'blind' wine-tasting event, which will feature red, white and rose wines, as well as a sports, films, current affairs and TV quiz and a continental cheese tasting session, will be held in the school hall on Saturday, October 22, starting at 7.30pm.

Jess Robinson, chairperson of the Friends of St Bede's, said: "The school is celebrating its 60th year this academic year and we are kicking off the celebrations with a ceremony to bury a time capsule in the school grounds.

"We are planning a number of events throughout the year with which to commemorate this special occasion. It's quite a novelty having a PTA in a high school nowadays. The blind wine tasting evening promises to be a really fun night."

Tickets for the wine tasting event, which cost £17.50, can be ordered from Nicola on 07854 195 217.

The Friends of St Bedes are running events to celebrate the school's 60th anniversary

'Bog-Eyed' joggers on target to raise £1,300-plus for school

SPORTY pupils from a West Lancs primary school have put their best feet forward for charity on their annual 'Bog Eyed Jog'.

Children from Tarleton Holy Trinity CE Primary turned up early at the Church Road school in their pyjamas and jogged around the playground to raise funds for the school before having a well-earned breakfast and drink.

The annual event is organised by the school's parent-teacher association, Friends.

Headteacher, Stephen Smith said: "It was lovely to see the children running around to raise well-earned money for the school. And what a fabulous turn-out by the parents and carers who came to watch and cheer on the children - even though it rained while the Year 6 pupils were running."

Donations are still being taken but the PTA are confident that they will have beaten last year's total of £1,300.

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Freshers' Fair kick-starts college year

STUDENTS were given the opportunity to sample a range of activities, win prizes and grab 'freebies' when West Lancashire College staged its Freshers' Fair.

The event gave new students the chance to get to know their tutors, meet new friends and settle into their programmes of study.

A spokeswoman for the college said: "The first few weeks of the new academic year have got off to a great start here at West Lancashire College. We hosted our Freshers' Fair last week, where students had the opportunity to get involved, win prizes and grab themselves some freebies."

In addition to the college's own Enrichment and Health and Wellbeing team, other organisations taking part included Wigan Outdoor Adventure, Soldiers Army, England Netball, Blackburn Rovers Football Club and Spartans Basketball Club.

Meanwhile, representatives of Minds Matter, Home Instead and Smoking Cessation were also in attendance to promote the importance of health and wellbeing to the students.

Learners could sign up for enrichment activities including the National Citizen Service, National Student Union, sport and fitness activities and first aid qualifications.

Other activities for students to look forward to throughout the academic year include inspirational guest speakers, fundraising events, the Interactive Careers Fair, HE and Progression Fair, plus trips to London, Paris and New York.

Learners trying out rock climbing with the Wigan Outdoor Adventure team at the West Lancashire College Freshers' Fair.

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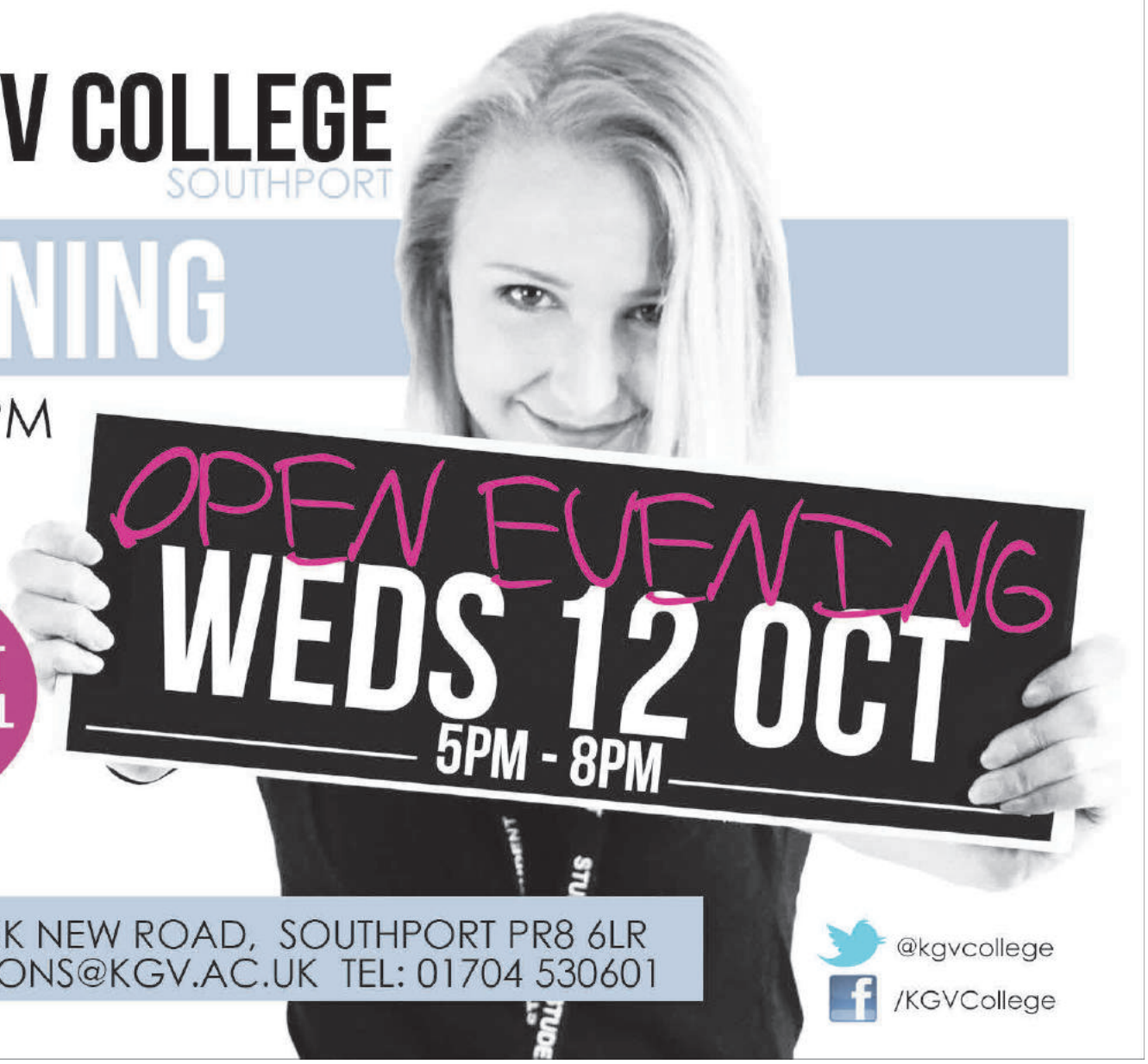

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Top chef judges village show 'Bake-Off' event

A CULINARY expert was among the guests at this year's Hesketh Bank Village Show.

Sean Kelly, senior chef for global hospitality company Marriott International group in Europe, judged home-baked delights in a 'Bake-Off' event at the show held at All Saints Church, Station Road.

Accompanied by wife Rachel and son Josh, Sean met show organisers Mary Scambler and Barry Dawson before sampling the sweet treats in the contest inspired by the popular TV show.

Other attractions at the annual show included a bouncy castle, live music, hog roast and a ducking stool game.

Meanwhile, as well as the Bake-Off showdown competitors battled it out for prizes in events including best cut flowers; floral art; fruit and vegetables; home produce; and a children's event which included animals made from fruit and vegetables, decorated gingerbread men and favourite photographs.

Pictured: Top chef Sean Kelly (far right) samples the home-baked delights.

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No reprieve for libraries and children's centres

A SPECIAL meeting of Lancashire County Council's cabinet has decided to uphold its decision to proceed with the authority's property strategy, which includes the closing of libraries in West Lancashire.

The meeting was called after the council's scrutiny committee to ask cabinet to reconsider its decision, under its 'call-on' procedures.

The property strategy sets out changes to the way a number of services are delivered.

The overview and scrutiny 'call-in' procedures allow for such a meeting to be called at the request of a minimum of five county councillors representing more than one political group.

Normally 'call-in' can be requested by any five county councillors but when a decision has been considered by both the executive scrutiny committee and cabinet, and agreed without being changed, a higher threshold is set requiring that the five councillors represent more than one political group.

Up Holland library

Under the property strategy Up Holland, Burscough and Parbold libraries are to close.

Also set to be axed are Up Holland children's centre at St Thomas the Martyr CE Primary School, the Hesketh with Becconsall Children's Centre and the Moorgate Children's Centre in Ormskirk along with the children's social care facility at Fairlie, Skelmersdale and Ormskirk's Derby Street Day Care Centre for older people.

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Mayor gives civic seal to community fitness project for new mums

A PROJECT which aims to help new mums regain their fitness after having children by teaming affordable sports sessions with an on-site crèche has been officially opened by the Mayor of West Lancs.

Councillor Liz Savage was invited along to the first session of Fit Play, a not-for-profit community scheme offering affordable fitness, health and well-being activities for parents with young children.

Sessions, costing £5, will be held at NXG Fitness in the Malthouse Business Centre in Ormskirk on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.30 to 10.15am.

Benefits

A crèche for babies and any older siblings is also provided.

The scheme has been organised by founder Stephanie Chadwick, who said: "Fit Play is essentially a gym with a creche, which I set up with the aim of helping stay-at-home mums or parents who look after children or babies during the daytime come with their children for fitness sessions, whilst the children play in our free creche. There is nothing like us about and this sort of provision for mums has no end of benefits such as health, fitness and social interaction for both mums and children."

The mayor, Councillor Liz Savage, pictured at NXG Fitness with Fit Play staff and one of the first 'customers' Hayley and son Oliver.

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Trauma nurse Catrina lands senior sister's position at hospital

Former Edge Hill student, 24, is one of youngest in country to be appointed to role

A FORMER Edge Hill nursing student has become one of the youngest senior ward sisters in the country.

Catrina Dickens has been appointed to the post by Southport and Ormskirk NHS Hospital Trust at just 24 years of age.

Her new position is based on a trauma ward at Southport and Formby General Hospital in Town Lane, Kew and trust bosses are hoping others will now follow her career path as they continue a recruitment drive to find more nurses.

Just three years ago Catrina was a trainee nurse studying at the Ormskirk university where she gained a first-class degree. She started working for the trust in October 2013 as a staff nurse and has been promoted twice since based on performance and ability.

Catrina, who has responsibility for 35 staff and manages a busy 30-bed ward caring for trauma injury patients, said: "Being a ward manager and senior sister is a big challenge but it's something I love. This is a great place to work. The hospital is small enough to have a community feel, but busy enough to be exciting and challenging. The training and support given to me has been fantastic."

Her rapid rise through the ranks comes as no surprise to her colleagues who have been impressed by her dedication and drive. Carol Fowler, acting deputy director of nursing, said: "Catrina has been recognised for her skills and abilities and has got this promotion on her own merits. This reflects the trust's environment for talented nurses to develop."

Catrina Dickens at work

Meanwhile, the Southport and Ormskirk NHS Hospital Trust is staging its next nurse recruitment event at Southport Hospital on Monday, October 10.

Carol added: "We are keen to meet nursing students, qualified nurses and those returning to the profession, from across the region and beyond, who are interested in a career in nursing at Southport and Ormskirk hospitals. At the recruitment event you will be able to find out more about the trust and chat to nurses already working for us."

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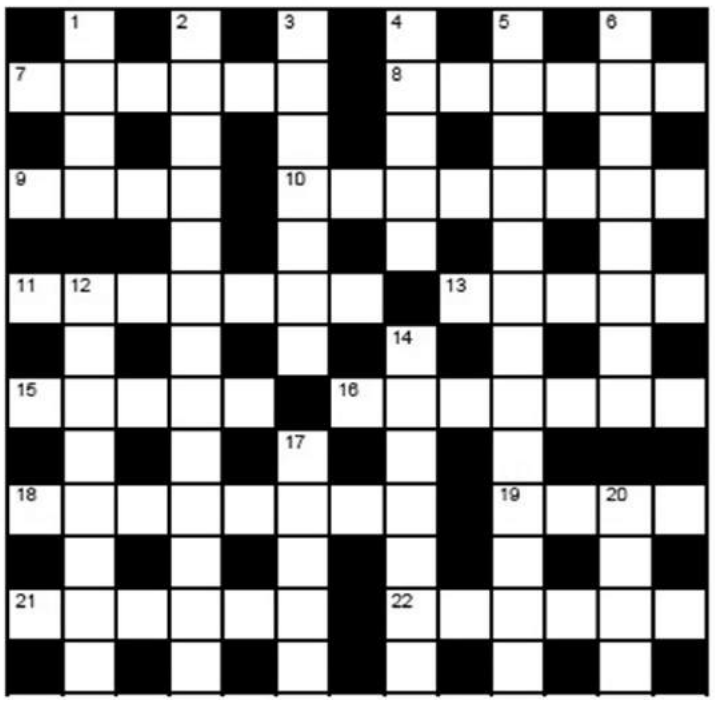

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Applet. 8 Tandem. 9 Ping. 10 Half-moon. 11 Meeting. 13 Unify. 15 Usury. 17 Sarcasm. 20 Validate. 21 Puck. 22 Dahlia. 23 Upside.

Down: 1 Splice. 2 Flog. 3 Etching. 4 Still. 5 Mnemonic. 6 Tee off. 12 Tortilla. 14 Baleful. 16 Stalag. 18 Secede. 19 Banal. 21 Push.

ACROSS

7 Confidential (6)
8 Decapitate (6)
9 Oven for firing pottery (4)
10 Item of clothing made up of a single garment (3-5)
11 Historic term for a British soldier (7)
13 Ring-shaped coral island (5)
15 Faint-hearted (5)
16 Mounted troops (7)
18 Secure position from which to make further progress (8)
19 Bottle-stopper (4)
21 Australian acacia tree with yellow flowers (6)
22 Try hard (6)

DOWN

1 Abominable Snowman (4)
2 Written or printed version of something (13)
3 Low upholstered seat without a back or arms (7)
4 Religious building (5)
5 What you might send to a friend over the festive period (9,4)
6 Relating to the vessels of the body (8)
12 Containing or consisting of a series of separate parts or events (8)
14 Small particles of wood (7)
17 Sacred book of Islam (5)
20 Lively party (4)

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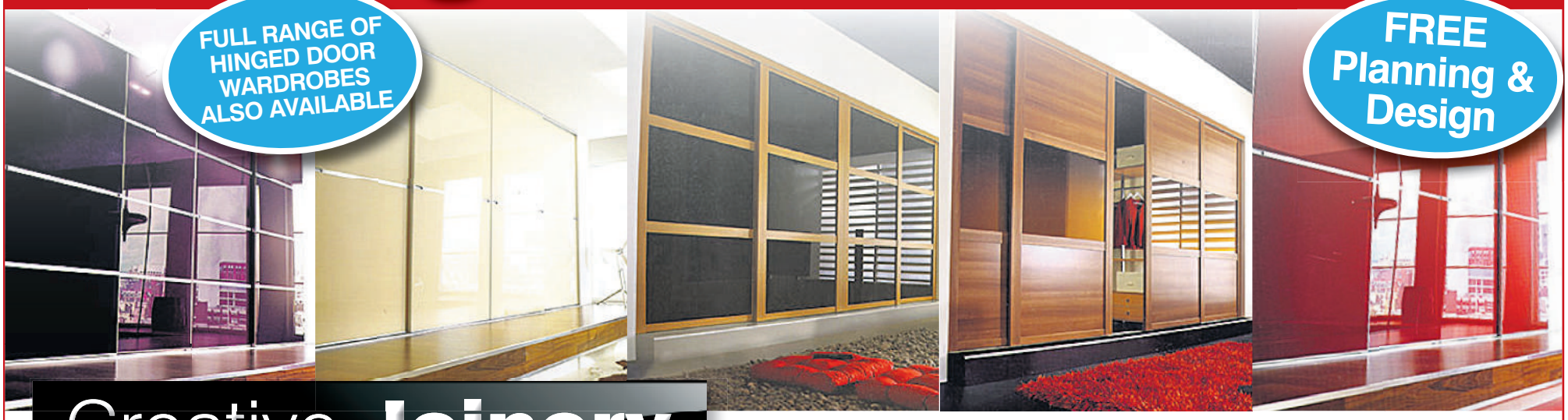

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Inspectors recognise improvements to county council's children's services

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

GOVERNMENT education watchdogs have acknowledged improvements being made to Lancashire County Council's children's services.

A recent monitoring visit by Ofsted inspectors recognised that the "pace of positive change" has accelerated as the county council makes improvements to the services.

The two-day monitoring visit last month was the fourth such visit since an Ofsted inspection in September and October last year which rated a range of services for children and young people as 'inadequate'.

In a letter published on the Ofsted website, inspectors recognise the increased 'pace of positive change' the council is making to improve services for children and young people. They noted that additional investment in staffing at all levels, along with changes to the way services are delivered, was starting to have an impact in reducing staff caseloads and strengthening management oversight of practice for children in need.

County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson, Lancashire's cabinet member for children and young people, said: "This is encouraging feedback and confirms that Ofsted has confidence that we will make the necessary improvements provided we keep up the pace of progress.

County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson

"I was pleased that they recognised that staff morale is high and that teams feel supported to improve the services they deliver. I know that our members of staff, and our partners in other organisations, are fully committed to providing the best quality services to children and families.

"We still have a long way to go but I am confident that we are all moving in the right direction."

Inspectors recognised changes to help staff deliver greater expertise were starting to improve the quality of service received by care leavers, helping them make a successful transition to independence.

The council says a significant amount of effort has been invested in developing a more robust performance system for children's social care, a key area highlighted in the inspection report last year. Inspectors commented there was a notable improvement in the accuracy of performance data collected by the council and it was recognised that this "was being used more frequently to monitor and enhance social work practice".

Inspectors also shared the council's view that, while momentum behind the improvement plan from the council and its partners remains strong, further work needs to be carried out to embed good practice and improve consistency in the quality of social practice. Work to address variations in the consistency of social work practice is well underway and continues to be a key priority area.

Band's treble triumph

MEMBERS of a musical ensemble could be forgiven for blowing their own trumpets after notching a treble triumph.

The Tarleton Brass Band won both the march and hymn tune rounds at the second Darwen Town Centre March and Hymn Brass Band contest to be crowned overall winners of their section.

And to complete a memorable afternoon for the band nine-year-old, Sarah Bould won the section for the best young player.

Anyone interested in joining the band is invited to go along to practice sessions at Tarleton Cricket Club in Carr Lane on Thursday evenings, from 6pm for juniors and 7pm for seniors, or contact Barry Taylor on 01772 812 253.

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Illustrated talk on village's canal heritage

MEMBERS of a local history society will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the completion of the Leeds-Liverpool canal at their next get-together on Monday (October, 10).

Local historian, Phillip Watkinson will give an illustrated talk at the monthly meeting of the Burscough Heritage Group ahead of the official anniversary date on October 22. This will be at the Blue Mallard, Burscough Wharf starting at 7.30pm.

Heritage Group member Colin Wareing said: "The canal reached Burscough in 1774 and the village soon became an important centre on the canal. Over the years, many boats were built in the village and generations of families settled in the village to work on the boats.

"Passenger boats connected with horse-drawn coaches on the Liverpool to Preston turnpike, the wharf provided provender to feed the horses that pulled the barges, and H and R Ainscough established the flour mill in the village."

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting. Entry costs £2. For more information ring Colin on 07931 356204.

Service veterans urged to seek help with mental health problems

LANCASHIRE'S Military Veterans Service is encouraging former servicemen and women who may be experiencing mental health problems to get in contact and fight stigma as part of World Mental Health Day on Monday, October 10.

The process of adapting back to civilian life after serving in the military can often trigger emotional troubles for veterans.

Many develop fear at the thought of the instability of 'normal' life and the lack of structure that they are used to. They can often worry about education, finances or the thought of feeling isolated and alone.

The Military Veterans Service believe that no-one should be left to tackle this on their own and it is important that they reach out for support for the challenges that they may face.

The partnership service provided by Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust and Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust is supporting World Mental Health Day by raising awareness of mental health and ensuring veterans are aware that they are here to help. The service offers support for veterans experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety or substance misuse.

Joe Crocock, Military Veterans Service manager, said: "We want people to understand that there is no better time to open up about mental health than World Mental Health Day. Some veterans feel as though mental health services will not provide the understanding and help that they need, and that is why we have a service dedicated to the needs of veterans.

"People shouldn't ever feel as though they have no one to talk to or that no one will be able to understand what they are going through. The service is made up of a team of people who have an excellent understanding of the culture within the forces. Many of our staff are veterans or have family members in the forces, so there is always someone who can relate to the situation."

For more information about the Military Veterans' service or to make a self-referral visit www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/military-veterans or call 0300 323 0707.

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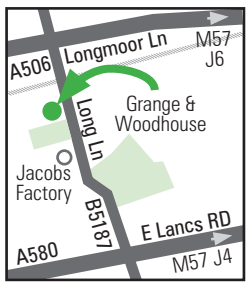

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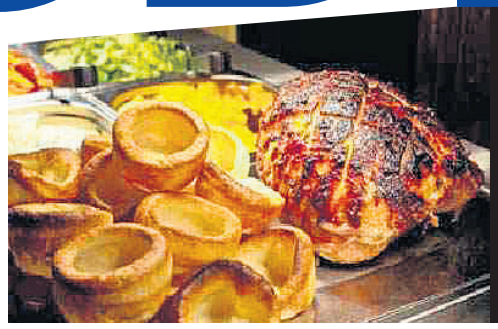

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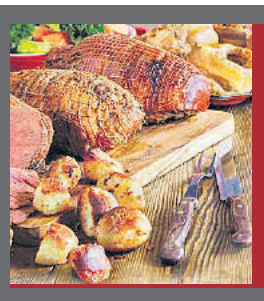

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National Trust group to host talk on piers

A SUPPORT group which raises funds for historic properties is holding a 'light-hearted' presentation on British seaside piers tonight (Wednesday, October 5).

The Ormskirk and District Association of National Trust raises funds to assist with projects at National Trust Properties and also provides members with interesting lectures and a social programme throughout the year.

Group member Shaun Farrely will present the Seaside Piers talk at the Christ Church Ministry Centre, Long Lane, Aughton starting at 8pm.

The meeting is open to anyone who is interested and a small charge will be made for non-members. Anyone who holds National Trust membership is welcome to join for a small extra fee.

Online support for young bullying victims

THE county's police and crime commissioner Clive Grunshaw has launched an online support service for young people who are being bullied or harassed.

Entitled Nest Lancashire, the website, which can be found at www.nestlancashire.org, offers information and guidance to young people aged 10 to 18 who have been left hurt or upset following a crime or incident.

Young people can refer themselves through the site to access help and support including advice over the phone, one-to-one meetings, group activities with other young people, confidence building and other social activities including sports.

The service specialises in supporting young people who have been affected by crimes and incidents like bullying, grooming, sexual abuse, violent crime, coercive control, theft and criminal damage.

Mr Grunshaw said: "Supporting victims is a key priority for me and younger victims can be particularly vulnerable following a crime or an upsetting incident.

"We know that young people access services differently and I am pleased that the dedicated website now provides an additional way for young people to find out more about the service and to refer themselves to get the support they need."

Andrew Fletcher from Groundwork, who manages the service on behalf of the commissioner's office, said: "It's really important for young people to be able to access the help and information they need, quickly and easily. The new website, in addition to the helpline and our social media platforms, means that the service now provides a full range of support in ways that suit young people best."

Young people can also access the service by calling 0300 111 0323, by texting NEST and their number to 60777 or by sending an email to info@nestlancashire.org.

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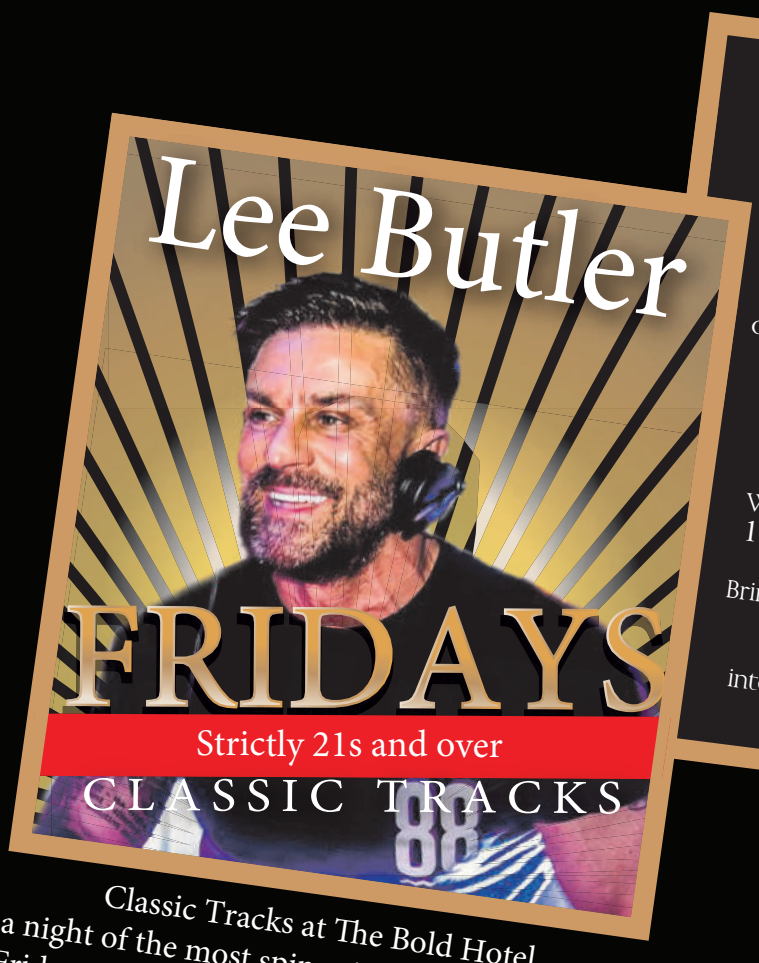

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Psychic Ally Thompson is hosting an evening of spiritual entertainment at The Bold Hotel on Sunday, November 13. Event £18. You will also receive 10% off restaurant bookings in November.

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Popular international pianist returning to village hall

DOUGLAS Music, Parbold, will feature the popular international pianist, Noriko Ogawa in the Village Hall Arena Auditorium this Saturday (October 8) at 7.45 p.m.

The concert is the culmination of a two-day visit to Douglas Music during which Noriko will perform her Jamie's Concerts of Classical music for parents and carers of people with autism this Friday (October 7) at 10.30am. The concerts' name comes from the young boy of a family with whom Noriko lived when she first came to the UK.

Jamie's Concerts are presented in association with the National Autistic Society for which Noriko is a Cultural Ambassador.

The concerts aim to provide parents and carers of children on the autism spectrum with the chance to relax:Noriko Ogawa said: "To be able to relax and unwind is rare for many of those caring for children and adults with autism - it is my hope that these concerts offer a little calm, a chance to regroup then go forward with renewed spirit and strength."

On Friday afternoon at 1.45 pm, Noriko will perform one of Douglas Music's Pied Piper concert for local schoolchildren. For the last decade, Douglas Music has presented at least one concert each season for 200 plus local primary school children to give the experience of coming to a special place to listen to and watch the creation of live music played by international artists and professional musicians.

On Saturday evening (October 8) at 7.45 pm Noriko Ogawa's concert includes two favourite pieces by Clara and Robert Schumann, whose Fantasie, dedicated to Liszt, is a landmark of romantic piano music. Well known pieces by Satie, Rachmaninov, Ravel, Liszt and Elgar make up the remainder of this popular programme.

Noriko Ogawa

Noriko Ogawa has achieved considerable renown throughout the world since her success at the 1988 Leeds International Piano Competition. Among all of these achievements, she remains a very good friend to Douglas, Music.

In partnership with West Lancs Dial-a-Ride, Douglas Music has set up a Ticket and Ride scheme Douglas Music has partnered with West Lancashire's Dial a Ride to offer a subsidised mini-bus service to and from its concerts for members of the audience who would love to come to the events but who cannot use public transport or for whom it is not available at the time of the concerts and do not have regular use of a car. For more information call 01704 893373 between 9am, and 2pm weekdays or leave a message.

Bishop announces hometown gig

COMEDY star John Bishop is coming back to his hometown of Liverpool on Friday 20 and Saturday, October 21, 2017, with his brand new show Winging It.

It will have been three years since his last tour and Winging It is aiming to be his biggest and best yet. John is very much looking forward to this new adventure and can't wait to be back on the road again.

John has achieved success with a number of his own comedy, entertainment and documentary shows.

John is also a regular on A League of their Own (Sky1).

Tickets go on sale for the Echo Arena gig tomorrow (Thursday, October 6.

Turing's story brought back to city

IN a major revival of Hugh Whitemore's Tony-nominated play Breaking The Code BAFTA award-winning actor Daniel Rigby takes on the role of the mathematical genius Alan Turing.

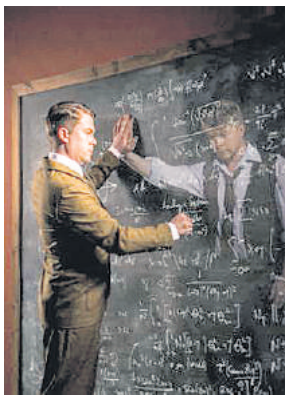
Manchester born Rigby leads a cast of eight in the Royal Exchange's new production of this compelling play which brings Turing's story back to Manchester, the city in which he lived, worked and died.

Robert Hastie's new production celebrates the mind of this incredible man revealing the infinite wonder of Turing's mathematical world and the brutal constraints set against sexual freedom in post-war Britain. The production runs from October 28 – November 19.

In the leafy surroundings of Bletchley Park at the height of the Second World War, a brilliant young mathematician called Alan Turing was working away at a problem. The creation of a machine. A machine that would crack the German Enigma code and win Britain the war. In the aftermath of victory, Turing arrived in Manchester with an even bigger task in mind – the development of the modern computer. It would be a task he left unfinished, publicly humiliated and destroyed by the revelation of his sexuality and prosecution for indecency.

Daniel Rigby, who makes his Royal Exchange debut, is a BAFTA Award-winning actor, comedian and writer who works across theatre, television and film.

Daniel's theatre credits include Alan Dangle in the original cast of One Man, Two Guvnors (National Theatre/West End/Broadway).



Breaking The Code is coming to The Royal Exchange

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20 NOV • LLANDUDNO & CHESTER XMAS MARKETS ELVIS TRIBUTE
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20 NOV • LEEDS & YORK XMAS MARKETS MICHAEL BUBLE TRIBUTE
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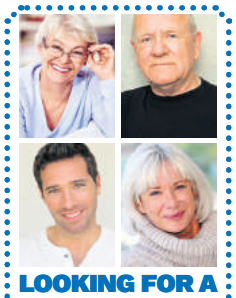

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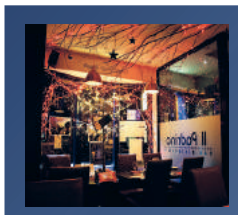

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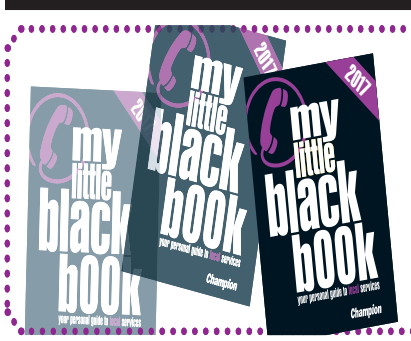

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LADIES GREY suede "Rocket Dog" wedged heal boots - calf length, fur lined - size 6. Laced front pattern. Worn once. Bought TKMaxx, £25 07821417560

LADIES COAT Jacques Vert three quarter length. Dark purple. Size 10. £45 01704506830

LADIES COAT Per Una full length. New. Size 12 in Magenta £45 01704506830

COMPUTING

CHILDS COMPUTER DESK pine with grey metal trim, top shelf, under shelf with blue round piece that comes out for mouse £5 07851 192684

DIY

TWO HARDWOOD double glazed windows, top opening sashes H42" W48". Hardwood Elizabethan style door, H77.75" W 32.75", good condition, £60 the lot 0151 5319475

2 LADDERS 15 foot, used on one job, £5 each. Pull hoist for scaffold, 100ft rope, £25. Engine starter £10 07564 272881

PERSONAL

Staff required

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ANGEL LODGE Kirkby Industrial est, off the M57 East Lancs Road. Open 7 days a week, 10:30am to 8pm,*Free secure parking* Quiet & Discreet *Days Available* Brooke and Dion are back in the lodge! Tel 01515463264

DIY

SLATE original from very old building, large quantity £2.50 each. Also York stone exterior paving flags 07714878154

STIRRUP PUMP antique from very old building £150. Also rectangular stone trough £360 07774 878154

TWO 12FT extending ladders, reaches roof, flaggers maul, vgc £50, buyer collects, will split 0151 4747961

BATHROOM RADIATOR small, 80 x 60, as new £15 01704 572037

WORKMENS TOOLS 2 boxes assorted £20. buyer must collect, due to she clearance. 0151286 6896

ENGINEERS HAMMER cold chisels, 9 assorted spanners £10. 01704 893569

NEW SPARS 4 10ft, 4x4 £20ono. plate glass, bevelled 30 x 20 £5ono. 01704 893569

WORK BOOTS x 3 new £8 size 7-8-9. 2 ladders of scaffold £6 each. building hats(x5) £1 each. walking frame £5. 07564 272881

PLASTER COVING 5 lengths, 6'6" x 4" £10. 07490 686379

SHOWER MIXER VALVE Good quality chrome concealed mixer valve, with large shower head. In good condition, ideal for new or refurb bathroom. May not suit combo type boilers. Aintree £20.00 07434841029

GARDENING

SUN DIAL Stone sun dial £10 01704213935

FLYMO Electrolux power compact 400 38 cm cut £20ono 01519245550

BLUEBERRY BUSH £10 01704 214017

FLYMO garden vac/blower, good working order £22 0151 5319475

CORDLESS SUPATRIM hedge trimmer 14.4v 46cm blade £10 01704 565666

POWER DEVIL garden blower/vac model PDG4026, very good condition £20 01704 565666

HOZELOCK 25M free standing or wall mounted compact hose reel £25 ono 01704 565666

ATCO 20" MOWER BOX towed seat with heavy roller, to ride on, newly painted 01695 720040

LAWNMOWER push type Qualcast Bl British made, 12" cut, no rust, in very good order with grass box, £15. Evenings 01695727636

HEDGECUTTERS challenge 12V, hardly used £15ono 01704 893569

GARDEN TABLE solid mosaic cost £100+ vgc, selling £40 too big. mens motorcycle jacket black/blue used 5 times £30. 07944 536241

GAZEBO 3 side panels, bought for birthday party, used once £50ono. 01704 880936

NZ FLAX specimen plant, 6ftH x 5ftW, healthy, space needed £25. 01704 566726

HOBBIES

WANTED MILITARIA Cap badges, insignia and buttons, WWII or earlier, private collector. 07921172834

TELESCOPE Vanguard with soft and hard case. Tripod also included. As new £45 Southport 07980675339

DRAWING GUIDES How to Draw Anything complete guide hardback and The Watercolour Course with paints, tray and brush by Angela Gair £8

CAMERA/VIDEO BAG Unomat black with carry handle, as new £7 07858 462998

HOBBIES

PRACTICAL HOMEOPATHY large hardback book by Sylvia Treacher, lovely condition £3 07858 462998

SILK FLOWERS large bunch 10+ poppies, alstroemeria, cornflowers, apples and others £8 07858 462998

BOWLING BAG Blue Drake's Pride bowling bag £5 01695573969

BOWLS Greenmaster bowls and jack £30 o.n.o 01695573969

200 X Football Programmes some 60s 70s to date bargain £25 the lot 01515319425/07773242918

CRAFT STASH Includes 5 paper pads, alphabet die, 37 card blanks+ envelopes, Mr.Men embossing board, various stickers & embellishments, papers etc. Bargain£12 07742176433

PAPERCRAFTING STAMPS 3 sets of Christmas stamps (1 unopened), plus embossing folder of Christmas tree (11 cm high). Birkdale. £4 07742176433

EMBOSSING BOARD for papercrafting, by Keepsake, double-sided. Instruction sheet included. 32.5 x 23.5cm. Hardly used. Birkdale. £2 07742176433

MODEL TANKS 75- 1/72 scale model tanks for sale in Churchtown. £2.50 each. Glass cases with 9 or more tanks if required 01704 620793

CASH PAID for old toys! Local collector buys old cars, soldiers, toys etc. All conditions considered. 07900 380051

STAMPS First day envelopes World collection, Princess Anne Royal Wedding, 14 Nov 1973, total 70 in album, quite rare £325 01704 893589

ORNAMENTAL COTTAGES Four different Irish Heritage Collection ornamental cottages, from the range called Fishermans Cottage, Aintree.£10.00 07434841029

BLACK LEATHER walking boots - Size 5. Worn but only covered approx 36 miles in total. No worn tread. VGC £7 07821417560

GIBSONS JIGSAW of 2 x 500 pieces "Holiday Memories" £2.50; 1 Gibson jigsaw x 500 of Tenby Harbour £1.25, all complete. Aughton 07855222552

TENT Four man Cullen tent sewn in groundsheet all pegs and guys, used only three times, excellent condition Skelmersdale £45 07756497201

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

SINGLE RECORDS 42 sixties 7 inch vinyl records Neil Diamond Hollies Rolling Stones etc. £15 the lot 01695 420950

VINYL SINGLES Over 32 60s 12 inch vinyl Lps Batchelors Jim Reeves Buddy Holly etc £20 the lot 01695 420950

GOODMANS STEREO Tower stereo,cd and tape player with remote control,tiny damage to speaker front otherwise very good condition. £30 litherland area 07960231352 after3pm

TABLE Drop leaf dark wood table £10 01704213935

SONY TV 26 inch LCD TV £30 01695 558169

LCD TV 24 inch neon £25. 01695558169

DVD PLAYER Philip DVD player £5 01695558169

FRIDGE Under counter fridge. White Proline fridge for sale. No longer needed. Good clean condition and in good working order. 07923602895

YAMAHA CLAVINOVA cvp-55 speakers headphone sockets music rest sliding acrylic lid disk bay pedals stool music, excellent condition, black gloss £220ono 01695 574153

KEYBOARD ORGAN 54 keys with microphone and stand, excellent condition, ideal christmas present for 13/14 year old, £15 ono 07885 489067

FLATSCREEN TV Sony Bravia 26" £50. Sony midi hifi, tape, CD player, VGC £50. 07801 946884

SONY MIDI hi-fi system - black - consisting of CD player, radio + 2 small speakers. VGC. £20 07855222552

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

PANASONIC DVD recorder DMR-ES15 model with remote control+instruction booklet. Silver L17"W12"D2.5" VGC £40 07821417560

FREEVIEW RECORDER Icecrypt HD freeview recorder excellent condition with remote and instructions, watch and record HD TV £60 07467098657

HOUSE AND HOME

SINGLE BED, with drawers, hardly used, high quality mattress £65 07791 006232

STORAGE ONLY 900 sq.ft. warehouse, suit furniture, in between houses etc. £80.00 weekly all in, short let (Formby) 01704831861

DINING TABLE Beresford and Hicks. with 6 chairs. Immaculate condition. £180 01695 579192

ROUND GLASS TABLE 45 inch diameter with 4 cane on back and seat chairs with metal frames.£40 ono. 01695 340516. Can deliver.

BONE CHINA MUGS X3 individually boxed and wrapped, floral pattern £10. Tel:01704 876572

LEATHER 3 PIECE SUITE Stokers Violino in brown. 2 seater sofa, 2 chairs. Excellent condition. £275 07532407350

CANE CONSERVATORY SUITE
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LAURA ASHLEY shabby chic Queen Pillow Blue/Cream pattern filled with duck feathers £9 07858 462998

SOFA BED Marks & Spencer Abbey medium sofa. Very comfortable, only slept on once. Very good condition. Cost over £1000 new £250 ono 01704 226831

HOUSE AND HOME

DINING TABLE Solid pine 48" round with central pedestal. 4 chairs. Good Condition.Can deliver in southport £50 ono 01704 226831

LINED CURTAINS cream/beige silky stripe two 214cms long 454cms drop & two 214cms by 227cms with 4 tie backs immaculate condition £35ono 01704 224812

DURONIC Ice Cream/Sorbet/Yogurt maker. Brand New never taken from box bought in June this year. Ice Cream / Sorbet 15minutes Bargain £12 01704220356

KENWOOD CHEF food mixer model KM 300 all white colour,newish model,with beater,dough hook and whisk,liquidiser and chopper/coffee grinder,as new £60 01704 530137

SHELVING UNIT for books or displaying ornaments, free standing, modern design, silver tubular frame and 5 light beech colour shelves 59" high X 28" wide £10 Tel: 01704530137

PUNCH BOWL Lovely silver plated on copper,large size.with 12 matching cups,on large matching tray,and ladle,made by Viners £95 01704 530137

WANTED FOOTBALL MATCH worn shirts wanted liverpool everton etc cash paid 01515319425/07773242918

DIVAN BED King size bed with 2 draw storage excellent condition £50 07964027980

TODDLER BED East Coast, pine low toddler bed 140 x 70cm, good used condition, can deliver locally, includes mattress if required £40ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07859-935406

MOTHERCARE BED Low, pine toddler bed 140 x 70 cm, good used condition, can deliver locally, includes mattress if required £50 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

LARGE MIRROR white mirror, square in shape 33" x 33" ideal for bedroom good condition Lit her land area very good condition £30 07960231352 after3pm

LEATHER SOFA'S 2 x 2 seater, cream by dfs, good condition one has a few marks on seat but hardly noticiable Litherland 07960231352 after3pm

NEXT SOFA 3 seater, big soft cushions, beige, very modern, as new condition. House move forces sale. £150 ono 07790 898275

BROWN FAUX Leather single bedstead with clean mattress, slight defects otherwise in good condition ring for details £45. 07708836403

CHILDS BEIGE Faux suede armchair, removable cover, very heavy, ideal for watching tv playroom etc £20 07708836403

IRONING BOARD Ironing board hot spot pro. As featured on page 945 of Argos catalogue. Brand new never used. Cost £44.99 accept £20. 01704/577481

CURLING TONGS Babybliss auto curling tongs. Only used a few times. In original box and in absolute mint condition. Cost £130 accept £50. 01704/577481

BIRD TABLE Wooden bird table on stand £5 01704213935

FRIDGE FREEZER Zanussi fridge freezer £10 01704213935

COOKER AEG cooker good condition £50 01704213935

FAST PRESS Fast press £40 01704213935

MICROWAVE Sharp microwave £5 01704213935

SUITE 3 piece suite Blue £10 01704213935

LAZYBOY CHAIR Lazyboy chair blue £10 01704213935

ELECTRIC CHAIR Electric chair blue £10 01704213935

FRIDGE White undercounter Beko larder fridge in good clean condition and good working order, Size W 54 x H 84 x D 57 cm approx. £45. May deliver 01704 560150

ERCOL DUTCH DRESSER Lovely Ercol Dutch dresser with 2 shelf plate rack and base with 2 cupboards and 2 drawers.W32.5 inches x H68.75 May deliver £95 01704 560150

DYSON DC14 Upright vacuum cleaner with tools in good condition and good working order. £55 01704 560150

HOUSE AND HOME

DINING TABLE Solid oak oval barley twist legged drop leaf table. Open size 59 inches x 42. Closed 21 x 42 approx. May deliver £75 ono 01704 560150

NEST OF TABLES Shreiber nest 3 tables in teak in very good condition. £48 01704 560150

KITCHEN CHAIR Dining chair with spindle back and solid shaped elm seat in very good condition. £12 01704 560150

DYSON DC14 bagless, upright, excellent for picking up pet hair, has tools, can deliver £50 Southport 214498

ARMCHAIR. Maroon pattern, small legs. Virtually new, £199 new 4 mths ago. £60 01704 875561

CURTAINS Pair blue lined each 86" long x 132" wide £90 01704 214017

DINING ROOM Table & four chairs. Glass top in black with four black chairs. Modern good condition. £75 01704509913

CORNER CAROUSEL SHELF Corner cabinet carousel shelf for a corner kitchen unit. £50 ovno 01704573196

DINING SUITE Dark oak extending table and 6 chairs (2 carvers) in good condition. £65 ovno 01704573196

DINING TABLE vintage, oval with centre pedestal and brass claw feet. Beautiful condition. £15. 01695 576726

COFFEE TABLE oval with queen ann legs. Lovely condition. £10. 01695 576726

RUG Large 160 x 210 approx rug. Retro style. Brown, beige and blue swirls. Long/shaggy texture. Good condition £20 07923602895

STEP LADDER aluminium multi-purpose, anti-slip, can be used as extending ladder £15. Toddlers push trolley £5. Baby activity mat £5 07492 740424

EFBE-SCHOTT steam power mop, plus 6 cloth mop covers, new, £25 ono 0151 5319475

ROOF TILES 60 grey concrete tiles, curved 15" x 9" £25 01695 578218

SUPER KING HEADBOARD antique brass effect, cost over £200, as new, will accept £45 01695 578218

NEXT CURTAINS eyelet, burnt orange, 90/90, cushions + 2 throws to match £40. Daewoo cream microwave £20 0151 7921472

3FT SINGLE BED with slatted base, good clean mattress £25 07954 020264

THREE PIECE two seater oatmeal floral patterned suite, two reclining chairs, excellent condition £300 ono. Buyer collects. 01704228430 or 07989186278

FRIDGE FREEZER Beko white, hardly used, vgc, H142 W53 D55cm, £50. Phone after 5pm 01704 536667

FRIDGE FREEZER black with water dispenser, very newish £160. 4 electrical items, £180. Lamp new £80. 07562 564533

SILVER DYSON DC14 upright vacuum cleaner, good condition, can deliver £50 07845 529249

HOUSE AND HOME

WOODEN BEDFRAME 4ft easily assembled, nice condition £45 01704 571062

UPRIGHT VACUUM Asda Cyclonic, good condition £30 01695 733872

SHOP SCALES Traditional old fashioned with stainless steel bowl converted to metric. Good working order. Buyer collects £30. Maghull 07583 354024

KITCHEN OVEN Mini grill hobs, rotisserie, never been used. Brand new £65 01695 724799

ANTIQUE MIRROR Large, gold, oblong, excellent condition. Cost £89. Sell £20. 0151 4763017 or 0775 4408582

DINING TABLE Extending oval teak, 4 chairs, 2 carvers, good condition plus felt protector. £60 ono. 01514763017 or 07754408525

STONE FIREPLACE cast iron gas fire, real coal, complete with instructions, cost £400 sell at £100. 0151 287 0384

DYSON DC07 upright vacuum, good working order, clean condition £45. 07879 087669

PIANO STOOL black, new, never been used £50. 0151 922 1673

BEDROOM CARPET pink oval 5ft x 3ft, perfect condition £15. 01704 893569

LEATHER SETTEE burgundy, wood, 2 seater, plus recalling chair (remote control) vgc £1745ono buyer collects. 01704 894661 or 07880 894649

GUEST BED single converts to double, inc unused mattress vgc £60ono 07843 528459

SHOWER SCREEN for bath, glass, one rounded corner 54"x 29" £10. 0151 531 1394

TIERRED STEAMER x 3, russel hobbs, used twice £12. 3 storage jars £2.50. large hotpot bowl & lid £10. 01704 570374

OCCASIONAL TABLE circular with table cloth draped to floor ideal as side table or bedroom or hall £7 ono may deliver 01515263851

TABLE CLOTH Boxed and unopened Marks and Spencer table cloth, size 140 cm X 230cm. Cost new £25.00, Aintree. £10.00 07434841029

TABLE LAMP A traditional oil style brass effect table lamp with unusual glass shade, Aintree. £35.00 Tel 07434841029

PICTURE & MIRROR M&S oriental picture and a pine framed mirror 19.5 x 14 inches, Aintree. £10.00 07434841029

CURTAINS Two pair, good quality, one 62" long and 78" wide, lined with pelmets to match, including tie backs, second pair 62" long and 99" wide. (Two sets cost new £180, Aintree) £39.00 07434841029

WOODEN BLANKET CHEST 35"x19"x24" high. Nice condition in a medium oak with a panel design to front. Very strong and sturdy. Would look nice painted with a pastel colour. Not modern or antique. Aintree £89.00 07434841029

LARGE POUFFÉ Size 23" X 23" x 16" h. light grey in colour, lift up cushion with storage under, on casters for ease of movement. Very good quality and condition. Aintree £59.00 07434841029

STORAGE TRUNK Solid wood trunk lift up lid with seat and bench cushion Ikea Alve desk seat £25 01704549616

HOUSE AND HOME

DESK/BUREAU Bureau style Pc desk pull down table drawer below,solid wood vgc Ikea Alve range £45 01704549616

SOFA/SOFABED Lovely Marks and Spencer two seat sofa raspberry fabric very solid, firm cushions little use so vgc £100 01704549616

MEDIA UNIT Wood sideboard/media unit four lattice design doors shelving inside originally from The Pier £45 01704549616

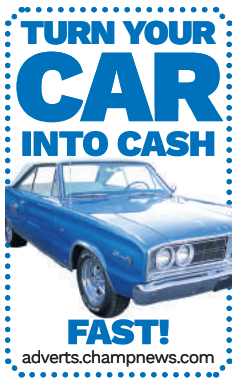
SMALL SIDEBOARD Lovely wood sideboard with drawer and cupboard, two doors with lattice front originally from The Pier £45 01704549616

LAMP TABLE Lovely wood lamp table with drawer and cupboard lattice front originally from The Pier £35 01704549616

BISTRO SET Lovely bistro table and chairs cream metal floral design very pretty £35 01704549616

LAMP TABLE Pretty round lamp table with cupboard vintage style, cream with painted floral design and lift off tray top £25 01704549616

FIREPLACE SURROUND with back and hearth all one piece for electric fire sandstone effect £35 01704549616



HOUSE AND HOME

BEDROOM SUITE John Lewis leather double bed, matching bedside table and 6 chest of drawers in chocolate, excellent condition £150 the lot 07906376722

GOLD COLOURED mantle/wall mirror, ie flat bottomed edge curved @ top 33"x22", decoratively edged, as good as new - bought @Taskers £25 07821417560

3D DECOUPAGE picture hand made of "Boy & the bubble" in mahogany wooden frame with carved edge/gold filt inlay/glazed 14"x12" VGC £5 07855222552

2 OIL paintings 13"x11" of different woodland scenes in autumnal colour in substantial gold frames. Ex con. £6 each/£10 for 2 Tel: 07855222552

OCTAGONAL WALL mirror. Mahogany, gold gilt inlay 23"x23". Ex value @ £10 07855222552

TV UNIT Oak Furniture Land top quality with 2 draws for CDs etc if no ans when call leave tel no forCB 01519292083

FREEZER Under counter freezer. Amica make. Three drawers. Clean and compact £40.00 01695 627186

GPLAN BED £250 buyer collects. 01704894232

WORKSTATION DESK Desk with attached shelving, metal framed 120 x 65 x 121 cm new, still in packaging genuine reason for sale £40 Ono. 07919888743 or 01704539324

PET GEAR/AT3 Dog stroller suit small- medium dogs as new genuine reason for sale cost over £200 bargain £100 quick sale 07919888743 or 01704539324

MISC

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MISC

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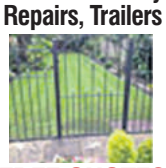
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MISC

DOWNTON ABBEY M&S Signature soap trio, new boxed, fragrance of freesia and mandarin; great stocking filler £5 07858 462998

ORNAMENTAL PERFUME BOTTLE Large glass bottle by Jane Charles (checkout her website) in stunning blues and greens, fantastic gift £50 07858 462998

CLOTHES AIRER to hang on radiator £5 07858 462998

JOBS!
jobschampion.com

SPORTS CARS hardback book by Ray Hutton with dustcover 1st edition 1973 £28 07858 462998

RECORDS WANTED indie, rock & roll, 60's pop and beat, rock, folk, punk etc. Bought for cash. Cigarette & bubble gum cards also bought. 01704 566210 after 6pm

MANCHESTER UTD fully signed football rooney beckham etc bargain £45 01515319425/07773242918

PRINTED PLATE Assorted painted copies of artwork. Branded 2/3/4s. 30 plates £40 01704 875561

CAITHNESS PAPERWEIGHTS 3 items, branded, perfect condition £40 01704 875561

BOOKS History of the Great War, 12 volumes including pictorials, pictures Waverley £35 01704 893589

VALOR CALA heater 7kg cylinder £25. Camping Gaz cylinder 907, empty £8. 01704 877990

FOLDING TABLE 30x20, fine for the garden £5ono 01704 893569

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MISC

SAFE new £30. Bell suit a pub £10. pull 100ft rope of scaffold £10. engine starter £15, walking frame £7. 07564 272881

WALL BRACKET multi position ideal space saver to hold TV DVD player microwave etc may deliver £6 ono 01515263851

FOLDING TABLE Very sturdy, 31"x 20" and 29" high, folds away flat to store. Ideal for one or two person. In very good condition. Aintree. £14.00 07434841029

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4 WHEELED mobility walker with seat, backrest and lockable hand brakes for safety £40, can deliver Southport 214498

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR very comfortable, easily folds for transport, can deliver £55 Southport 214498

RESTWELL relaxer chair, brand new, unused gift, cost £400, sell for £200 0151 4764045

WALKING FRAME three wheel with bag, will fold for transport, can deliver locally £20 01704 214794

MOBILITY

MOBILITY SCOOTER electric scooter ultralite 480, bought January 2016, cost £676, used 5 times, will go into small car, excellent condition £475 01704 876208

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR good condition, usual accessories, can deliver £55 07845 529249

3 WHEEL folding walking frame with shopping bag, locking brakes, can deliver £30 07845529249

MOBILITY SCOOTER ROMA SHOPRIDER PARIS only used a few times, from new, mid sized, a bargain well below new price £375 01704 545754

MOTHER AND BABY

RED KITE Baby Walker. New unwanted gift but no box. Suitable design for a boy. Cost £50 will accept £25 0151 5272091

PINE COT 140 x 70cm, good condition, used at Grandmas, can deliver locally, includes mattress if required £40 ono Birkdale 01704568606 or 07850935406

LINDHAM BABYGATE White, pressure fit, walk through safety gate £12 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

KATIE CRIB Katie crib complete with mattress and cover. Natural finish. Can be collapsed for easy storage. Only used in grandparents home. In excellent condition. Cost £80 accept £40. 01704/577481

GIRLS COAT Ted Baker girls coat/anorak navy lined with hood. Excellent condition.£10. 01704/577481

BABY CLOTHES Baby clothes for a boy aged 0/3 months. Over 100 items some never worn. In absolute mint condition a bargain at £10. 02704/577481

MOTHER AND BABY

BOTTLE WARMER Tommee tippee bottle warmer plus sealed unused bottle. Excellent condition. From smoke and pet free home. £6.00 Tel: 01704 560627

MOTORING

FORD RADIO/CD Ford 6006E RDS Car Radio/CD auto changer with code. £40 ovno 01704573196

VOLKSWAGEN T5 Fiamma bicycle rack - fits 2 bikes plus 2 Fiamma yellow levelling blocks, all for £50 07875330671

PETS

DOG STROLLER Pet Gear AT3 stroller small -medium Dogs as new, cost over £200 quick sale bargain £100 Tel: 01704539324 or 07919888743

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

18 PING IRONS £50 8 PROGEN WOODS £25 01704 894035

DRIVING IRON wild thing tour design 15.5% loft bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

GOLF TROLLEY Hardly used, wide wheels. £20 01704 875561

RUCKSACKS Grey good condition £5 green £5 01704 214017

FELL BOOTS LADIES Size 5 leather new £10 01704 214017

WINMAU DARTBOARD new bristle never been used bargain £15 01515319425/07773242918

HOCKEY STICK with carry case may deliver £8 ono 01515263851

EXERSIZE BIKE £40 VGC. buyer collects 07732962958

TOYS AND GAMES

FIVE JIGSAWS all 1000 pieces perfect and complete varied scenes £1.50 each £5 the lot 01704 224812

HELLO KITTY New boxed lovely 38cm doll and hello kitty buggy nice gift xmas or birthday 2/3years upwards Bargain £14 01695 725134

FISHER PRICE Bounce and Spin Zebra, black and white, good condition £10 Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

LITTLE TIKES Picnic Table with attached benches, faded but sound, can deliver locally £ 10 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

ACTIONMAN 4X4 Large Action Man Jeep with cannon and rockets £10 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

MICRO SCOOTER Mini micro scooter.Three wheeled tilt and turn steering suit 3/7 year old Very good condition £10. 01704/577481

CHESS SET Hand carved soapstone set. Made in Korea. King 6 ins high. £40 01704 875561

LARGE BOX of McDonalds toys most brand new the lot £10 may deliver 01515263851

CHILD'S GAME TABLE Multi play free standing game table. Football, pool, push hockey and basket ball. Measurements in inches, H30", L34"", D23", can be dismantled for storage. Good condition. Buyer collects £35 01695573147

WOODEN CASTLE Lovely pink and blue fairytale castle with tower and drawbridge for papo figures or similar £15 01704549616

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- ☐ Miscellaneous
- ☐ Mobility
- ☐ Mother & Baby
- ☐ Motoring
- ☐ Pets
- ☐ Sports Equipment
- ☐ Toys & Games

2 NOW ENTER YOUR DETAILS: *(not for publication)*

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms

Address

Postcode

Daytime telephone no:

3 YOUR ADVERT'S CONTENT: Please write in **BLOCK LETTERS** • 24 words max.

Post this coupon to Champion Newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 0QA

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- *Round includes:* Mercury Way, Wellington Cl, Earhart Cl, Harrier Dr, Penwell Fold, Hansby Cl

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- *Round includes:* Church St, Parliment St, Priory Nook, Priory Rd, School Ln, Mill House View, Higher Ln, Back School Ln, St Thomas Court
- *Round includes:* Parsonage Brow, Parsonage Close, Windmill Heights, Beacon Heights

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- *Round includes:* Long Ln (part), Beaumont Cr, Carmel Cl, Sandfield Park, Aughton Park Dr, Moss Bank, Moss Bank Ct
- *Round includes:* Hallmoor Cl, New Ln, Black Moss Ln (part) Scarth Hill Ln
- *Round includes:* Yew Tree Rd (part), Croftson Ave, County Rd (part), High Ln
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HOLMESWOOD
- *Round includes:* Holmeswood Rd, Smithy Ln

RUFFORD
- *Round includes:* Springwood Dr, Longshaw Cl, Rufford Park Ln
- *Round includes:* Beech Cl, Liverpool Rd, Thornton Cl, Station Rd, Manor House Cl, Church Cl, Diamond Jubilee Rd, Douglas Cl

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£100.....Mr & Mrs Sullivan, Crosby
Plus 15 other winners of £10 each

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£1500 = 29463 £100 = 11571
Winners of £20 are as follows:

278533	26691
27252	19969
20227	179190
15118	40842
15728	10711
15537	267957
27977	41855
10919	19835
17261	113857
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Elm Tree Community Primary School
Elmers Wood Road, Skelmersdale WN8 6SA.

Teaching assistant 2b
£17,547 to £19,939 a year. Ref: 155317B

32.5 hours a week, to work during term-time. Due to continued expansion of our specialist provision, the Governors of Elm Tree School wish to appoint a permanent TA2B to join our highly successful and committed staff team. Do you feel passionate about teaching and learning and do you strive to enable every pupil to achieve their potential? We are looking for outstanding, enthusiastic and creative Teaching Assistants to join us in raising standards for our learners. We are a community special school that caters for primary aged children who need support in developing their social and emotional needs.
We currently have 60 children on roll. You will join a team that is passionately committed to harnessing the educational potential of all our children, whilst encouraging them to engage in daily life with increased confidence, self-esteem and independence.
As a Teaching Assistant at Elm Tree School, you will be versatile and have the skills and ability to support our children with their behaviour and their learning. A strong academic background is essential.
We are a caring school where each child is valued as an individual and their achievements, big or small, are recognised and celebrated. All staff work hard to provide the best for our children, their families and the community.
The school runs a Curriculum Enrichment Programme which provides all children with experiences outside of the classroom, including but not limited to Forest School, Kayaking, Climbing, BMXing, Skateboarding, Drama and Dance. Experience in these areas would be beneficial.
The school also operates its own to and from school transport for the children, as well as out of school clubs, which provide opportunities for additional working hours.
Essential: You must have GCSE or equivalent qualification in five subjects, including maths and English, Grade A-C.
The post you are applying for is covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders (Exceptions) Act 1975. If successful you will be required to apply to the Disclosure and Barring Service for a 'disclosure'.
Interview date: 19 October 2016.

Application forms: Headteacher c/o Amanda Taylor at the school. Tel: 01695 50924. Email: admin@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk.
Closing date: 17 October 2016.

Some schools are excluded as commitment is on an individual basis.

Lancashire County Council

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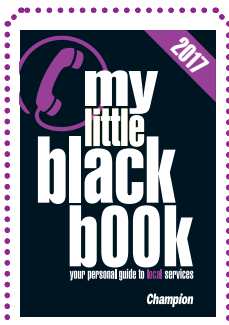

To book your space call 01704 392 392

NewHorizons
Creating Positive Outcomes

New Horizons (NW) Ltd are providers of high quality residential care for children and young people in Sefton/West Lancs areas. With the expansion of our company we are recruiting the following staff members.

All applicants must be age 22 and above. (In line with the Childrens Homes regulations 2015)

Residential Child Care Worker
(£15,189.00 - £19,817.00 + bonuses)
Relief/Bank Staff
(£7.20 ph + £0.87p holiday pay ph)
Waking Night Officer
(£8.00 ph + bonuses)
Experience of working with young people with challenging behaviours is desirable but not essential, however you must be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. RCCW/Relief the role does include seep-in duty as part of your shift pattern. Driving license for all roles is highly desirable due to the location of the homes.

Qualified Teacher (£22,000 + PA depending on experience/qualifications)

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a qualified, experienced and committed teacher to join our team in setting up our new independent school provision for the young people in our care.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate enthusiasm, resilience, the ability to work on their own initiative and think 'outside of the box' and a passion for working with young people with social and emotional needs and challenging behaviour.

For an application pack, please ring Claire Gerrard on 01704 518915 or email c.gerrard@newhorizonsnw.co.uk
Closing date for completed applications is 21st October 2016
Interviews to take place week beginning 31st October 2016

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We're Expanding!

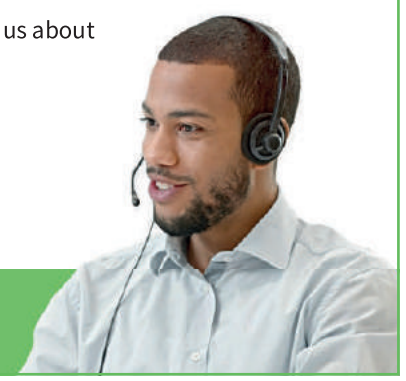
Customer Service Agent

- £16,000/year salary
- Full time, 40 hours per week
- Based in Formby, Merseyside
- Permanent

We're currently recruiting Customer Service Agents to join the team at Victorian Plumbing based in Formby, Merseyside. You will be responsible for providing first class customer service and ensuring every customer's experience is a positive one.

We're a fast-growing online retailer with a reputation for great customer service. We're looking for team members who represent our values and can help us to achieve our goals. If this sounds like you, then we want to hear from you.

To apply, email your CV and covering letter telling us about yourself to **jobs@victorianplumbing.co.uk**



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We're Expanding!

Warehouse Operatives

- £16,000/year salary
- Day/night shifts available
- Full time, 40 hours per week
- Based in Pimbo, Skelmersdale
- Permanent

Forklift Drivers

- £17,000/year salary
- Day/night shifts available
- Extensive experience working on a Counterbalance Forklift Truck is necessary

We're currently recruiting Warehouse Operatives and Forklift Drivers to join the team at Victorian Plumbing based in Pimbo, Skelmersdale. Picking and packing orders, you'll help to satisfy our customers nationwide and beyond.

We're a fast-growing online retailer with a reputation for great customer service. We're looking for team members who represent our values and can help us to achieve our goals. If this sounds like you, then we want to hear from you.

- Based in Pimbo, Skelmersdale
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- Permanent

To apply, email your CV and covering letter telling us about yourself to **jobs@victorianplumbing.co.uk**

Telephone Sales Executive

AdaptiveComms
Successful in Communication & IT

We are looking for experienced and trainee part-time and full-time telephone sales executives to join our successful sales team based in our Southport office

Basic £16,000 OTE £28,000 (pro rata)

Your role will be to identify sales opportunities with key decision makers in UK businesses over the phone. You will be wholly responsible for managing your own opportunities from identifying the right contact to booking qualified appointments for our field sales team to attend.

Here at AdaptiveComms we understand our staff are key to our success, that's why we offer continual support and training to help you hit your target and earn fantastic commissions and rewards.
Our sales supervisor Claire says 'AdaptiveComms creates a comfortable yet professional working environment, where you feel valued and rewarded for the work you put in'

SKILLS WE'RE LOOKING FOR…

- We are looking for friendly and positive people with a can-do attitude and a drive to succeed.
- You will be self-motivated and should enjoy working as part of a team as well as on your own.
- Ideally you will have worked in a similar job such as retail or customer service
- You will have a nice and polite telephone manner.
- You will be able to call from proven and successful scripts and also have the ability to use your own initiative on the phone.
- You will have English and Maths GCSE (or equivalent) and PC skills including Word and Excel

STAFF BENEFITS

- Here at AdaptiveComms we really like to reward out staff for their hard work and success!
- The role offers a competitive basic salary for both part-time and full-time positions and uncapped commissions. We also offer additional bonus's when higher targets are exceeded and quarterly rewards for staff who deserve it.
- Our employees benefit from working in a modern, friendly and very positive environment where you really feel part of a team and rewarded for your success.
- The role offers a great opportunity for career progression and promotion.
- We provide a fantastic Employee Benefit Scheme which includes an NHS top-up scheme, pension scheme and child care vouchers

THE COMPANY

AdaptiveComms was established in 2003 with the aim of providing high quality Communication and IT Solutions with exceptional customer service to medium and large businesses across the UK.
As an award winning company (we recently won Business of the Year 2015) we provide telecoms and IT solutions to many leading UK businesses including Scottish Power, Princes Foods and National Union of Students to name a few!

If you have 'the right stuff' and can't wait to join our team please call 01704 540547 and ask for Joe or email your CV today to jobs@adaptivecomms.co.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

SOPHIE GERTRUDE GREENWOOD (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the afore-mentioned deceased, late of 174 Prescot Road Aughton Ormskirk Lancashire L39 5AG, who died on 15/12/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 16/12/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(ANN STREET, SKELMERSDALE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over the full length of Ann Street, Skelmersdale in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Monday 3rd October 2016 to Friday 21st October 2016 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. No alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is available as Ann Street is a cul-de sac
4. Access will be maintained whenever and wherever possible
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow essential carriageway maintenance works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT16/08/4928/ARH]
NB – It is anticipated that works will only take place on two days during the above period. The road will remain at all other times.
www.lancashire.gov.uk Lancashire County Council

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(ESKDALE, SKELMERSDALE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Eskdale, from its junction with Tanhouse Road to a point outside the rear of property number 209 in the borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Monday 17th October 2016 to Friday 4th November 2016 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. No alternative route is available as Eskdale is a cul de sac
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow essential carriageway maintenance works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT16/08/4929/ARH]
www.lancashire.gov.uk Lancashire County Council

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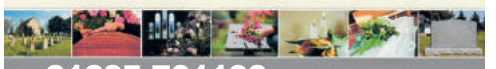
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MATTHEWS THOMAS H
Mrs Sheila Matthews and family would like to express their thanks to all family,friends and colleagues for the messages of sympathy and donations received for the Rosemere Centre at Preston Hospital,also to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Services for their professional service.

TOMLINSON CLAIRE LOUISE
John, Gill and Simone would like to thank everyone who supported them during their recent loss, they would like to thank in particular Howard's Funeral Directors for their first class caring, dignified attention, especially Derek Crawford. Thank you so much for all the cards, photos and messages on social media and for the very kind and generous donations received for St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. Maggie's Charity have also been very supportive and helpful. Our thanks to Professor Tom and nurses at St Bart's London Penbridge Hospice, to all the girls at Peets Farm and Claire's London friends for their tremendous fundraising efforts. Thank you so much to the Head Teacher, staff and parents of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Ealing where donations will provide a story teller's chair and small insect garden to benefit their children. Grateful thanks to Reverend Martin Abrams for his compassion and understanding, to the Southport Old Links who were tremendous and to Karbon Kopy on King Street for their beautiful Order of Service.

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

MCCULLEY SARAH
11th October
To hear your voice,
To see your smile,
To sit and talk to you
for awhile.
To be together
In the same old way,
Would be my dearest
wish today.
Loving Husband
Ray
xxx

Announcements

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

KELSEY TAYLOR

06.10.1992 - 28.10.2009

24 years old

Thinking of you on your Birthday with sadness in our hearts, for a very special someone for whom, we had to part, tears instead of wishes, flowers instead of cards, you left us precious memories that will stay forever in our hearts.
Happy Birthday Kelsey, love and miss you forever and always.
Your loving Family.
xxxxxx

BIRTHDAYS

GEMMA PRICE

Our little girl is

30 TODAY

With all our love and
Best wishes
From
Mum and Dad
Ste and Josh
Mark Charlotte and
Beatrix
xxxxx
Love you millions and
millions

DEATHS

STANDLEY JAMES FRANCIS

25th September 2016

Peacefully in hospital surrounded by his loving family

aged 63 years

of Skelmersdale

He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service at St Helens Crematorium on Monday 10th October 2016 at 1:00pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Macmillan Cancer Support. All enquiries to H. Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

GEORGESON KASHKA (PIPPA)

27th September 2016

Peacefully in hospital

Aged 26 years

A loving Daughter, Granddaughter, Sister and Auntie to all her family. She will be greatly missed and remembered for all her kindness, creativity, comradeship and support by all who knew her. All enquiries to H Hardman & Co. Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk and Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/ 720012

WELSH ESMA SANDRA

28th September 2016

Suddenly at her home in Skelmersdale

Aged 68 years

The dearly loved Mother of Andrew, Mikayla, Lorraine and Martin, devoted grandmother of Toni, Chelsea, Dannielle, Louise, Kristi, Kieran and Jackson and great grandmother to Harvey and Lucas. "For all of us you gave your best. Now the time is for you to rest. So go in peace you've earned your sleep. Your love in our hearts will always keep." Good night, God bless. All enquiries to H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

SHAW HILDA

2nd October 2016

Passed away peacefully in Southport hospital aged 99 years of Ormskirk

Dearly loved Wife of the late Jim. Much loved Mum of Jennifer and dear Mother-In-Law of Albert. Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Wednesday 12th October 2016 at 12:40pm. Family flowers only please by request, but donations if so desired for British Heart Foundation and Dementia UK. Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Tel: 01695 424888

PATT ANGUS

22nd September 2016

Suddenly at home

Aged 48 years

Loving partner of Judith, devoted Dad of Carly, Dale and Ashley, dear Father-in-law of Kate, cherished Grandad of Jack and Brogan. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at St. Richards Church on Monday 10th October at 10.00am. Followed by committal at St Helens Crematorium. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane. Tel: 01695 559868

IN MEMORIAM

JOHNSON JOHN

4TH OCTOBER 2015

One year you left us,
Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us everday,
Unseen,unheard but always near,
Still loved,Still missed and very dear.

From your loving wife Mavis.
xxx
Sons Paul and Mark,Daughter in laws Elaine and Paula
xxx
Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
xxx

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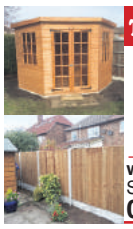

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Putting cars through their fastest paces on the brutal Simister fuel economy test

Even supercharged Jaguars like this XJR can play at being fuel economy champions

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER
www.lifeoncars.co.uk

APPARENTLY I have a knack for extracting big numbers from fast cars. Only they're not the figures you might be expecting.

Take the 22-year-old Jaguar XJR I was lucky enough to be lent a couple of weeks ago. Teaming a 4.0-litre straight six up with an Eaton supercharger means it'll kick 315bhp from its rear wheels – most of which I used on a glorious day cruising up the A1 and then hoofing around the Yorkshire Dales.

Even today it'll crack 60mph in under 6.5 seconds and theoretically race to 150mph, but the number that impressed everyone when I returned home was the 26mpg that I had somehow suckled out of it.

It's the same story with an equally ancient Mercedes-Benz S280 I borrowed for a trip to Devon not long ago. You'd think having a smallish V6 thrashing about beneath the bonnet of something the size of my old student flat would be a fuel economy nightmare, but it very nearly managed 30mpg.

Yet I've never been able to pull off the same trick in what's meant to be a champion of petrol abstinence - the Ecoboost-engined version's of Ford's Focus.

On the many occasions I've driven them I've never bettered 37mpg – a long way short of the 56mpg it's claimed to be capable of.

Sound familiar? Well, some scientist types noticed that lots of you have the same problem of buying cars and then spending rather more at the pumps than you'd originally expected and decided to do something about it.

After driving for what must have felt like an eternity they've managed to come up with real world figures for pretty much every car you can buy today – and they make intriguing reading.

Not only was their Focus Ecoboost result virtually identical to mine, but they also failed to match the fuel economy of cars marketed as being some of the nation's most frugal.

The Fiat 500 TwinAir gave them 39mpg, making it in their books less economical than the bigger 1.2-litre engine you can buy in the same car.

The Golf Bluemotion was 23mpg short of the 74.3 claimed in Volkswagen's figures. Don't think buying a hybrid's a get-out-of-jail-free card either, because the Prius' shortfall was virtually identical.

But don't take my word for it – have a look online and see how your car does. The one constant factor is that the bigger the engine, the less dramatic the shortfall.

Buy a Porsche 911 Carrera S and the shortfall is only 3mpg – and chances are if you're in one of those you'll be able to afford the difference.

Obviously I would be more than happy, Porsche, if you'd like me to put the 911 Carrera S through the Simister fuel economy test that so clearly suited the XJR and S-Class.

Just leave the keys on *The Champion's* reception desk…

Check out how your car performs in terms of fuel efficiency at www.equaindex.com

David is features editor of Classic Car Weekly

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Slick replacement Micra out in March

THE slickly-styled replacement for Nissan's Micra will arrive here next March.
The new Micra Gen5 – so called because it's the fifth iteration of the Japanese supermini – will initially be available with a 0.9-litre petrol turbo engine and a 1.5-litre turbodiesel, with a 1.0-litre petrol version arriving later in the year.
UK prices will be announced nearer to the model's launch.
For more information visit www.micra.org.uk

New off-roader is a turbodiesel

AN ALL-NEW version of one of Audi's Q5 will arrive in the UK early next year, it's been announced.
The new off-roader, which is available with two petrol engines and a turbodiesel, is 90kg lighter than the car it replaces despite being roomier and offering more luggage space.
Go to www.audi.co.uk to find out more about this model as well as the f ull range of models available across the UK.

The new Audi Q5 (right) will be launched in the UK early next year

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2013	(13)	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 NTEC+, in blade silver, with A/C, sat nav, e/pack, CC, Bluetooth, alloys, CD etc, ONLY FIVE THOUSAND MILES	£7,995
2013	(13)	NISSAN NOTE ACENTA AUTOMATIC, in haptic blue, with Bluetooth, CC, A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 15,000 miles	£7,995
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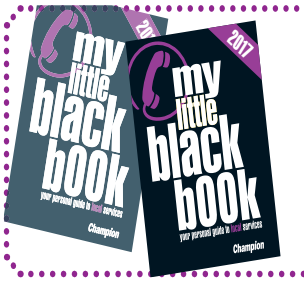
2010	(60)	PEUGEOT 3008 HDI SUV DIESEL AUTOMATIC, in silver, with A/C, CC, Bluetooth, e/pack, alloys, CD, only 21,000 miles	£7,495
2009	(59)	RENAULT GRAND MODUS 1.1 DYNAMIQUE 5DR, in burgundy with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 32,000 miles	£3,995
2007	(57)	TOYOTA AURIS TR, in stone grey, with A/C, elec pack, alloys, CD etc, only 48,000 miles	£3,995



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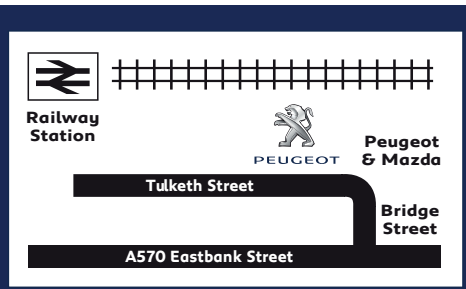

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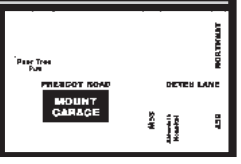

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Navdeep top scorer for Burscough with 501 runs

THIS week we take a look back at the highs and some of the lows of our local clubs during the 2016 Liverpool & District Cricket Competition First Division season, *writes Glenn Wallworth.*

Burscough finished fourth in the table with Navdeep Aujla topping the run scoring chart with 501 runs @ 31.31 with a highest score of 115*, followed by Ryan Hughes 400 @ 30.77 with a best of 100*, Brendan Domigan 370 @ 24.67 with a best of 103 and Alan Murray with 264 @ 29.33 with a best of 51.

Navdeep Aujla also topped the wicket taking chart with 55 @ 10.60 (best 5-12), followed by Jon Stone 29 @ 19.00 (best 4-21) and Rob Glaysher 23 @ 18.35 (best 4-27), whilst newlywed Michael Bimpson took 26 victims behind the stumps and Aujla took 8 catches in the outfield. Maghull finished at the foot of the table and were relegated on the final day of the season, Jack Wrigglesworth topped their run scoring chart with 620 runs @ 36.47 with a highest score of 104*, followed by Jon Ring 434 @ 25.53 with a best of 81 and Greg Gillespie with 326 @ 19.18 with best of 67.

Liam Johnson topped the wicket taking table with 31 @ 20.58 (best 6-80), followed by Jack Wrigglesworth 29 @ 19.69 (best (7-96) and Declan Devine 22 @ 21.50 (best 4-44), whilst Greg Gillespie took 7 victims behind the stumps and Liam Johnson took 11 catches in the outfield.

Next week it's the turn of our local clubs in the Second Division, plus news of some of the comings and goings across all three divisions.

Wiremen and big spending Spennymoor offer stiff test

SKELMERSDALE United are at home to Warrington Town on Saturday for what promises to be a cracking local derby game, one that will see a number of players going head to head with their former clubs, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

Then on Tuesday, October 11 Skem have a long midweek trip to County Durham where they take on promotion candidates Spennymoor Town.

Both opponents represent stiff opposition, but perhaps manager Tommy Lawson will be hopeful that his improving side can pick up at least a point against The Wiremen, who contain a number of former Skem players in their regular line-up including midfielder Ged Kinsella. At the time of writing Warrington sit on exactly the same points as last week's protagonists Mickleover, but Skem have a good record against Warrington (they had lost all previous matches against Mickleover) who have lost five out of their 12 league games this season.

Spennymoor have spent big over the summer in an attempt to build on their promotion last season from Division One North and they are one of the fancied teams to be at the top of the league, a position they would be sat in if they had won their games in hand on the leaders.

Lawson believes his team deserved more after defeat

By **Neil Leatherbarrow**

Skelmersdale United 1
Mickleover Sports 3

SKELMERSDALE manager Tommy Lawson believes his side deserved more from Saturday's league encounter despite conceding three goals.

A sharp pass from Chris Almond gave Luke Wall a chance that went past the far post on 16 minutes and on the half-hour Skelmersdale twice went close. Paul Woolcott zipped in a 20 yard shot that was finger-tipped over the crossbar.

Long after the referee had signalled two minutes added time, Mickleover broke and Andy Dales cut into the Skem penalty area from the left, Rob Bodie challenged and the midfielder went down.

The referee awarded a penalty and Adam Baskerville duly converted.

Only a very harsh critic could conclude that Skelmersdale deserved to be behind at the break.

Rob Bodie challenges former Premier League star Clinton Morrison. Pictures by John Driscoll

After the restart Mickleover went in for the kill and achieved their aim with clinical efficiency, though not without a couple of errors from Skem.

A 51st minute long ball brought confusion between goalkeeper Phil Priestley and full-back Valtar Fernandes, the ball ran free and Brodie Lichfield scored from an easy position.

Two minutes later, a through ball was allowed to run, Paul Woolcott challenged, Litchfield went down in a tangle of legs and himself made it 3-0 from the penalty spot.

Sadly for Skelmersdale it was game over, with confidence low they were never going to pull back three goals, though they did respond well.

In the dying moments, substitute Danny Burns fought his way down the right, as he entered the penalty area he was wrestled off the ball by Lewis Belgrave and a penalty was awarded. Strickland stepped up to fire home Skem's consolation to give some element of justice to the scoreline.

Linnets remain bottom of table without a league win all season

Goole 4
Burscough 1

BURSCOUGH remain bottom of the EvoStik Division One North table without a win all season after they were well beaten by fellow strugglers Goole.

The Linnets are still without a win in nine league games and are slowly losing touch with teams above them in the early stages of the campaign.

Goole offered Burscough a good chance to chalk up their first three points of the season, with both teams at the foot of the table, but the result means that the Linnets now trail the side by five points.

David Taylor opened the scoring for the home team before the lead was doubled by Curtly Martin-Wyatt before half time.

Lewis Dennison then made it three before Ombeni Ruhanduka scored Goole's fourth.

Next up for Burscough is a home tie against Kendal Town this Saturday in the FA Trophy.

Youngsters have spring in their step

CHILDREN who play for a football team in Skelmersdale will be kept warm during the winter training sessions after finding sponsorship from a bouncy castle business.

The children in their new kit

Mitch U14s has been backed by Wright Bounce for the 2016/17 season, much to the delight of manager Liam Heaton. It means the youngsters will get new winter training jackets for the cold months ahead and a new kit.

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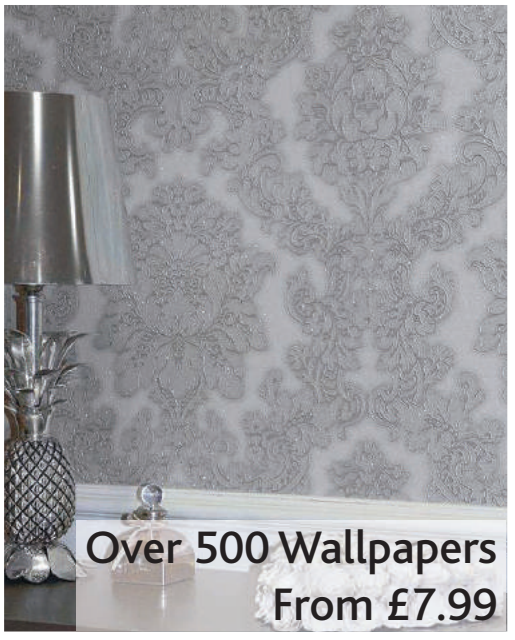

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